

## Miners in Soviet north end strike

MOSCOW (R) — Miners in the northern Soviet city of Vorkuta staged a one-day strike Saturday but agreed to return to work at a late night meeting after officials gave them written guarantees of conciliation, TASS said. Workers at 11 of the 13 pits in the Arctic region stayed at home Saturday, expressing fears that management might go back on pledges on pay, conditions and other issues made after a major pit strike swept the country last month. However, the official news agency said management then produced government documents detailing the settlement, and miners agreed to return to work from Sunday morning, suspending their action until the end of the year. "A government resolution and other official documents were delivered to Vorkuta tonight," TASS said. In the opinion of the working people of Vorkuta, they provide for fulfilment of their demands. At a general meeting of representatives of the city's mines and enterprises it was decided unanimously to suspend the strike until Jan. 1, 1990 and to start work from 0001 on Aug. 6.

# Jordan Times

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## Hungarian party thrashed

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary's strongest opposition group thrashed the ruling Communists Saturday to win its second parliamentary seat in the first round of free elections since 1947. In a second-round by-election in southern Szeged, the Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) took 61.87 per cent of votes cast against just 22.05 per cent for the Communist Party. A third, independent candidate polled 16.06 per cent. The winning candidate in Szeged, historian Erno Raffay, is the second opposition member of parliament to be elected since the Communists suppressed all rival parties in the late 1940s. The first, Lutheran priest Gabor Rosta, was elected July 22 in Godollo, near Budapest, in the only clear first-round result in by-elections in four constituencies. Saturday's vote was for the other three seats, where first-round voting was inconclusive either because the turnout was too small or because no-one won a clear majority.

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## 21 killed in fiery Beirut shelling

BEIRUT (AP) — Rival gunners clashed in what a radio station called a "shelling storm" Saturday, killing 21 people including seven soldiers serving under army commander Michel Aoun.

The deadly, six-hour barrage also wounded 82 people in Beirut, the surrounding mountain villages and the eastern Bekaa Valley, according to a police spokesman.

By police count, the 20-week confrontation between Aoun's 20,000 mainly Christian troops and the 40,000 Syrian soldiers and their militia allies in Lebanon has killed 537 people and wounded 2,266.

The police spokesman said the casualties Saturday included 10 dead and 40 wounded in the underground shelter of a residential building in the suburb of Fayadiyah.

A reliable source in east Beirut, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the building was used by Aoun's army as a "communications station."

Seven of Aoun's soldiers were killed in the shelter, the source said.

Aoun's command, however, withheld comment on the report.

The shelter, according to the police spokesman, was knocked out by three 240-mm mortar shells fired from a Syrian emplacement in the summer resort of Baalshmeieh, a few kilometres east of Fayadiyah.

The spokesman, who cannot be named in line with police rules, said the three mortar rounds pierced the parking lot of the

10-story building and blasted the underground shelter.

"Part of the building collapsed on the shelter and victims were buried under the rubble," the spokesman said.

Aoun's command at the Defence Ministry in the suburb of Yarze, one kilometre east of Fayadiyah, sent hundreds of soldiers to evacuate casualties from the collapsed shelter, the police spokesman said.

He said casualties were evacuated in armoured personnel carriers because "it was very risky for ambulances to operate due to the intensity of the barrage."

Most of the casualties in Fayadiyah were taken to the military hospital in east Beirut, the police spokesman said.

At peak times of the duel, according to the spokesman, 60 shells per minute were being fired.

He said the two sides fired about 10,000 shells and rockets in the exchange. The Voice of Lebanon radio called it a "shelling storm."

He said the barrage started around 10 p.m. (1900 GMT) Friday sending civilians to basements and underground shelters.

The duel escalated sharply after the Syrians hit the shelter, the spokesman said.

Aoun's gunners and their right-wing allies, the Lebanese Forces militia, entrenched in the 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave "responded heavily," the spokesman added.

Militia gunners sprayed residential districts in west Beirut

and other areas with Grad missiles from multi-barrelled rocket launchers, according to the spokesman.

He said the 122-mm projectiles made gaping holes in apartment buildings, shattering walls and glass and starting several fires.

Syrian gunners, manning howitzer emplacements along west Beirut's seaside boulevard, responded against residential districts in east Beirut.

The exchange spread to the mountains south and northeast of the war-divided capital.

Aoun's gunners also shelled the Bekaa Valley town of Chitoura which commands the Syrian army's supply routes from Damascus, the police spokesman said.

Sources said the exchange started when Syrian gunners shelled the coast north of Beirut to prevent five cargo ships from docking at Aoun-held ports.

He said the vessels heaved the "curtain of Syrian shells and anchored at ports north of Beirut."

Aoun controls a 45-kilometre stretch of Lebanon's 210-kilometre Mediterranean coast.

In Damascus, Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam discussed the crisis in Lebanon with two of its leaders Saturday.

Diplomats said Khaddam met Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Huseini to consider the results of the failed Arab mission.

Hoss heads a civilian government at odds with a military cabinet led by Aoun.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday confers with a delegation representing the World Islamic Council. The delegation is headed by Sudan's Abdul Rahman Swareddahab (centre)

## King briefed on outcome of WIC meetings in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — The outcome of the World Islamic Council's (WIC) relief and daawa was conveyed to His Majesty King Hussein at an audience held at the Royal Court Saturday with WIC Vice-Chairman Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab.

King Hussein heard a meeting on the council's objectives and projects, which, among other things, include support for Islamic institutions and mosques in the Israeli-occupied lands. The council, Swareddahab said, also deals with relief work for victims of natural disasters and wars.

King Hussein voiced deep satisfaction with the outcome of the two-day meeting, and wished the council members success in their noble and humanitarian mission.

The council members, including Swareddahab, earlier met with Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker to brief him on the outcome of the meeting.

A statement said later that the council discussed the general condition of Al Aqsa Mosque and other holy places in Jerusalem, and Israeli practices designed to obliterate Islamic sites.

It said that the council recommended assistance and support for Muslim youths in the occu-

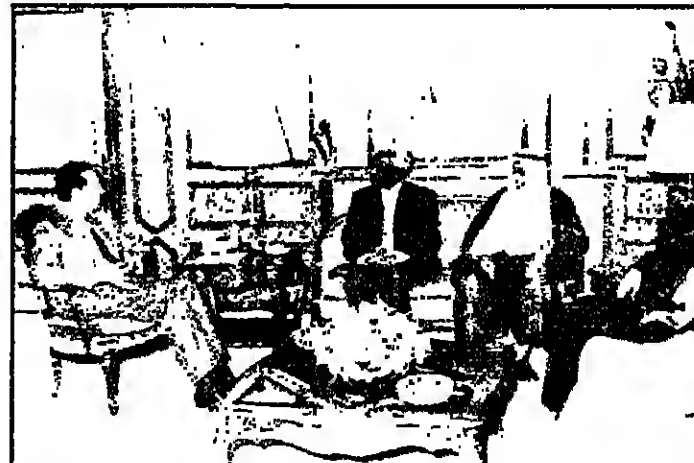
ried territories to maintain their steadfastness.

The council discussed close cooperation among Islamic countries in setting up Islamic centres in Europe and the Far East, helping Muslim minorities in non-Islamic countries and providing financial help and relief aid to promote the process of propagating Islam and Islamic culture.

Sharif Zaid voiced Jordan's pride in hosting the council's meeting here and said that the

Jordanian government was maintaining its full support for the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation and doing all it can to preserve and safeguard Islamic shrines in Jerusalem.

The council members also had a meeting with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat. They reviewed with him the outcome of the council's meeting and questions related to the situation in the occupied territories.



A World Islamic Council (WIC) delegation headed by Sudan's Abdul Rahman Swareddahab (second from right) is received by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Saturday (Petra photo)

## Kelly due in Amman today

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly is due to arrive in Amman Sunday for a two-day visit to Jordan for talks with senior officials on the latest developments in the Arab and international scenes. This visit is part of Kelly's tour to a number of region countries.

In Cairo, President Hosni Mubarak met Saturday with Kelly, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, at the presidential residence. Reporters were barred, but news of the meeting was reported by official Cairo radio and the Middle East News Agency.

The agency quoted Kelly as saying that his talks with Mubarak were "fruitful." He said they dealt with Arab-Israeli peace efforts and the crisis in Lebanon.

Cairo, President Hosni Mubarak met Saturday with Kelly.

Kelly arrived in Cairo Friday from Israel. The trip is his first to the area after his appointment, this year.

U.S. diplomats said Kelly's programme was confined to talks with government leaders and that he had no plans to meet in Cairo with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

During his Israel visit, Kelly met with 13 Palestinian notables from the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The dignitaries were not officials of the PLO, but they left no doubt in their comments on the meeting of their loyalty to the organisation.

The main topic of Kelly's Middle East talks is the Israeli plan calling for elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

Egyptian officials have said that, like the PLO, Cairo supports elections in principle but has reservations about the Israeli plan announced in May.

The Egyptians agree with the PLO that elections should be an integral part of an overall settlement based on trading land for peace and that the 140,000 Palestinian inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem should have the right to vote.



United Nations envoy Marrack Goulding leaves South Lebanon after meeting the spiritual leader of Hizbollah, Sheikh Mohammad Fadlallah

## Hostage negotiations set back

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Negotiations to free Western hostages in Lebanon suffered a setback Saturday when the pro-Iranian Hizbollah movement ruled out the release of three missing Israeli servicemen.

Hizbollah, believed to hold two of the servicemen and to have close links to Lebanese Kidnap groups, issued a statement to an international news agency in Beirut.

The statement denied that the organisation was involved in negotiations for a swap involving Western hostages and the Israelis in exchange for a Hizbollah cleric and other prisoners held in Israel.

However, it named five Palestinian and Lebanese detainees held by Israel as among those the party wants released in addition to abducted fundamentalist cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid.

A ranking Maronite Catholic bishop crossed Beirut's dividing green line to meet with Hizbollah's spiritual guide, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, and delivered a message from Pope John Paul II.

The Hizbollah statement issued in Beirut listed the five detainees as the "uprising heroes" Nidal Zaloum, Itaf Alyan and Abdul

Hadi Saleiman Ghanem and the "Lebanese resistance heroes" Anwar Yaseen and Soba Bishara.

The statement quoted an unnamed "responsible source" at the party as saying: "We are eager to obtain (their) release as much as we are eager to obtain the release of the detainees who belong to the sons of Hizbollah."

Soba Bishara shot and wounded Antoine Lahd, commander of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army Nov. 7, in his home in Marjayoun, provincial capital of Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Alyan is a seamstress from Bethlehem who was arrested allegedly before she could carry out a suitcase car bombing in Aug. 1987.

Zaloum stabbed two Israelis to death in Jerusalem and Ghanem carried out an attack on a bus. Despite public disclaimers, Hizbollah is widely believed to be the umbrella for factions holding most of the 17 Western hostages held in Lebanon.

The statement indirectly endorsed demands by hostage holders Thursday made to spare the life of American hostage Joseph Chappo.

The pro-Iranian Revolutionary

Justice Organisation said in a statement Thursday it was "freezing" the death sentence on Cicippio and replacing it with new demands.

Hizbollah demanded that Israel release Obeid, as well as Palestinians jailed during the uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and guerrillas it has captured.

It said lists of them are to be prepared within days and presented to the Red Cross.

The chief delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Lebanon, Michel Dufour, told the AP Saturday the ICRC has not yet been approached.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's top aide said Saturday Israel was exploring all roads to the release of foreign captives in Lebanon but refused to "engage in a public debate" over demands from the group believed to hold them.

Yossi Ahimeir also reiterated that Israel's proposal for an exchange of all foreign hostages and Israeli soldiers held in Lebanon for several hundred captive Lebanese was still valid.

Algeria's ambassador to Lebanon, Al Khaled Al Hasnawi, who

is playing a key mediation role in the crisis, has expressed optimism over prospects for the release of the hostages.

Israeli commandos sparked the crisis last week when they abducted Obeid, and two aides from his home in South Lebanon.

A pro-Iranian group said last Monday had killed U.S. hostage Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins because Israel failed to free Obeid. But a threat by another group to kill Cicippio was lifted Thursday.

### Goulding in Syria

U.N. envoy Marrack Goulding arrived in Damascus Saturday to seek Syrian support for international efforts to free foreign hostages in Lebanon.

"I came here to explore what the United Nations might be able to do to help promote a final solution to the hostage crisis," Goulding said on arrival from Beirut.

"I think there is wide recognition that there is an international situation at present which may create conditions more favourable to solve the hostage crisis,"

(Continued on page 2)

## Two Palestinian prisoners found dead in Israeli prison

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army said Saturday that two Palestinian inmates at a desert prison camp were slain by other detainees, but it was not clear if the killing was motivated by politics.

"During the count of prisoners at the Ketziot detention centre this morning, the bodies of two prisoners were found. They were killed by fellow inmates," an army spokesman claimed.

The desert camp holds Palestinians arrested without trial during the uprising against Israeli occupation that erupted in December 1987.

Arah and Israeli reporters said the new killing appeared to stem from a personal quarrel. The army said the incident was under investigation.

It identified the dead men as 28-year-old Ziad Abed Moham-

mad Al Banna from the Gaza Strip and 32-year-old Ali Al Jesh, also from the Gaza Strip.

Arah reporters said Banna was detained six months ago for hurling firebombs to enforce a commercial strike and Jewish was accused of throwing stones.

At least 88 Arabs suspected of collaboration with Israel have been killed by other Arabs since the uprising began. Army gunfire and Israeli settlers have killed 527 Palestinians, while 38 Israelis have died.

Israel radio said troops imposed a curfew Saturday morning on the Jabalia refugee camp and Tel Al Sultan neighbourhood in the Gaza Strip.

Arah reporters said that troops in the two camps summoned all males between the ages of 15 and 50 to central areas for questioning.

Arab journalists also reported that troops shot and wounded at least two people during protests in the Gaza Strip.

They said 11-year-old Ziad Abu Hillal of the Rafah refugee camp was treated at a hospital after a rubber bullet struck him above the left eye, while 23-year-old Abdul Hadi Ibrahim Abu Ateliah of Gaza was treated at Ahli hospital for a leg wound caused by a plastic bullet.

The army spokesman's office and military sources said Saturday that two homemade pipe bombs connected to a timer exploded Friday night beside a road leading to an army camp near the village of Zahabdeh in the West Bank, about 65 kilometres north of Jerusalem.

The army spokesman said there were no injuries or damage.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



## Hekmatyar says rivals held captive

PESHAWAR (AP) — A hard-line Afghan rebel leader said Saturday his party still holds some rival guerrillas captive following a clash between rebel groups last month.

He also threatened to boycott the U.S.-backed insurgents' self-proclaimed government because it has failed to hold elections.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, head of the fundamentalist Hezb-i-Islami, or pro-Islam Party, said elections throughout war-ravaged Afghanistan and in refugee camps in Pakistan were essential to stopping internal clashes among the rebels fighting to oust Afghanistan's Communist government.

"It would kill the tendency towards armed clashes. This is the only way of putting an end to our problems..." the bearded, turbaned Hekmatyar told a news conference.

It was his first public appearance since his backers were accused July 9 of killing 32 members of another rebel group, the Jamiat-i-Islami, or Party of Islam, in northern Afghanistan.

Hekmatyar, who has drawn heavy military backing from the United States through Pakistan, said only 11 Jamiat members were killed but 30 others "are being held captive and are still alive."

He did not give conditions for their release.

Hekmatyar claimed his men ambushed the Jamiat rebels because they had repeatedly attacked his local headquarters in northern Takhar province.

He called the clash a "local, regional conflict" and not a war between the two parties.

Jamiat leader Burhanuddin Rabbani has called for Hekmatyar's group to be suspended from the "interim" government proclaimed by their fractious, seven-party rebel alliance based in Pakistan.

The rebels formed the government last February during a series of acrimonious meetings in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital. It was designed to take over if they succeeded in toppling the Kabul government after Soviet troops completed their withdrawal from Afghanistan last month.

Hekmatyar joined it as foreign minister on condition that it held elections within six months.

In response to a question Saturday, he indicated he would give up on the five-month-old government if elections were not held by Aug. 10.

Critics have assailed the rebel government for its lack of unity and exclusion of other Afghan rebel groups, some based in Iran.

"Elections would include other parties, provide a legitimate body to draw up a constitution, dispense with tribal prejudices and prevent internal fighting," Hekmatyar said through an interpreter.

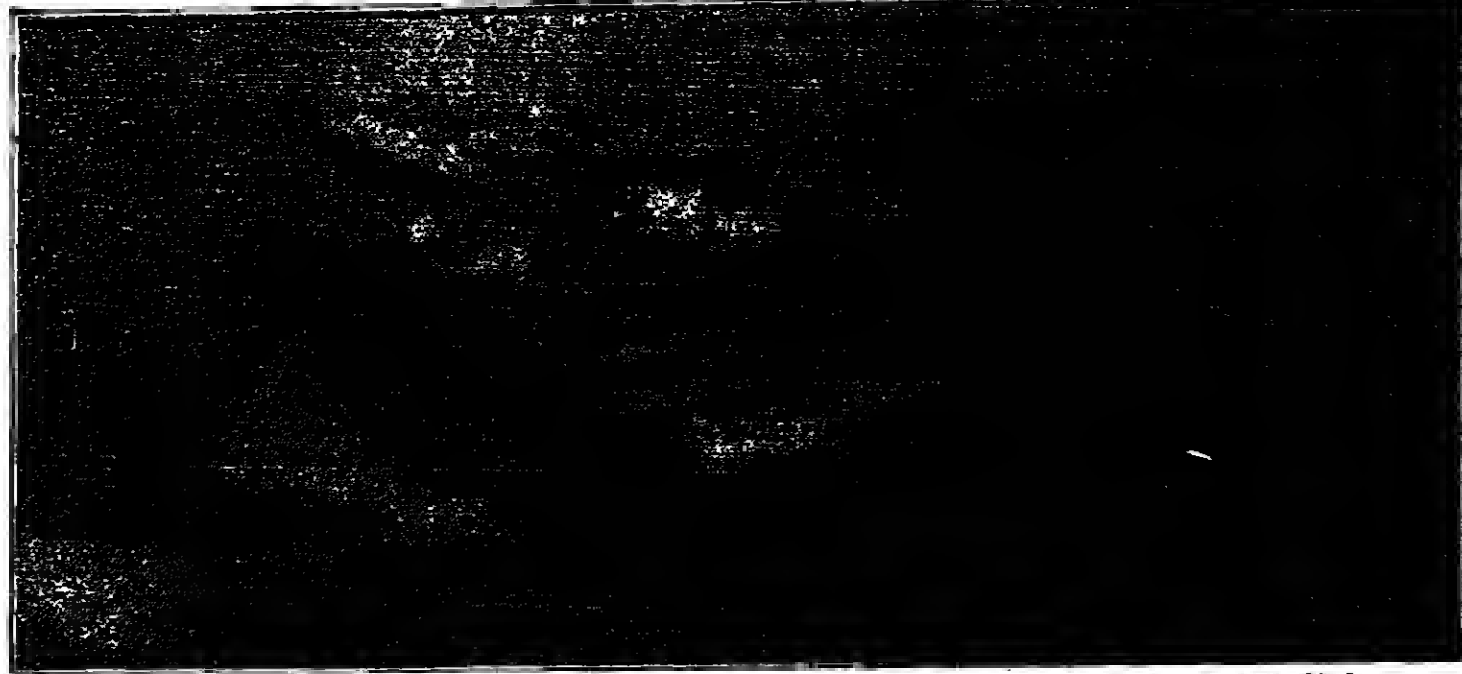
He called on Afghan army soldiers to stage a coup with the rebels' help and set up a "revolutionary council" to oversee nationwide polls.

Hekmatyar's proposals appeared aimed at deflecting growing criticism of his party for alleged treachery against other rebel groups.

The Hezb-i-Islami has received a major portion of billions of U.S. dollars in military backing funneled through Pakistan.

Virtually all rebel parties favor the establishment of an Islamic Afghan government but remain divided over religious ideology and personal loyalties.

The Communists seized power in Afghanistan in a 1978 coup. Moscow intervened the next year and have continued to back the government with military and economic aid.



**RUSH TO MIDEAST?** The aircraft carrier America under administration was keeping "all options" open in dealing with the hostage crisis in Lebanon.

## EC urges continued Arab effort in Lebanon

PARIS (R) — The European Community (EC) has urged Arab mediators to press on with a mission to end Lebanon's 14-year civil war despite an apparent impasse in their effort.

Foreign ministers from Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia said Monday their peace bid had reached a dead end and the next move was up to Arab heads of state.

An EC statement, issued Friday by current president France, expressed "deep concern" at the acknowledgment by the three states that they were unable to solve Lebanon's conflict despite exhaustive contacts with Arab and international powers.

An Arab League committee appointed the trio to end Lebanon's worst bout of fighting last May, pitting Syrian-backed forces against army units loyal to Army Commander Michel Aoun.

Hundreds have been killed in artillery battles between the two sides. Meanwhile Lebanon has had no president, two rival governments and a paralysed parliament.

The statement said the 12-nation community recognised the intense efforts made by the committee as well as the diverse forces that have hampered its work.

In a separate development, Lebanese and French doctors appealed to faction leaders to stop bombarding hospitals so that doctors could get on with saving lives.

"Stop bombing civilians... and help the white shirts of the medical teams, regardless of who they are," they said in an appeal addressed to French President Francois Mitterrand and the Lebanese and Syrian ambassadors.

More than 30 doctors in white robes presented the appeal to the two embassies in Paris on behalf of the medical organisations Medecins du Monde and Samn Liban.

The two groups have collaborated since April 1, sending medical supplies and 30 doctors on one-month missions to all areas of Lebanon.

Most public hospitals in Lebanon remain open but have not escaped indiscriminate shelling and artillery exchanges.

## Algeria has reputation as honest mediator

ALGIERS (AP) — Algeria has made a reputation for mediating difficult disputes over the past decade, including the January 1981 release of Americans held hostage in the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

Algeria has been able to combine strong revolutionary credentials in the Arab World with good contacts in the West and a skilled diplomatic corps to play a crucial role on several occasions — although usually the details of that role have never become clear.

Algeria's radio reported Saturday that its ambassador in Beirut, Khaleel Hasnawi, was making progress in talks with different parties about freeing hostages, whether "Lebanese, Palestinians, Americans, Europeans or Israelis."

Hasnawi was also quoted as saying in several interviews in Beirut that Algeria had undertaken an initiative to free the hostages.

Several times after French hostages were released by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon in 1987 and 1988, officials in Paris made a point of thanking Algeria publicly for its help, but both sides refused to spell out what was done.

"We have a skill that we put at the disposal of the international community," the Algerian ambassador to Washington, Mohammed Sahmoun, told reporters in April 1988 after hijackers of a Kuwaiti jetliner gave up the plane peacefully and apparently were allowed to slip out of the country.

"This is not always understood," Sahmoun said, referring to demands that Algeria help capture the hijackers and bring them to trial. He said to divulge details of the agreement would break Algeria's word to the hijackers and damage its chances of being useful in the future.

Perhaps the most prominent Algerian success in mediation came on Jan. 20, 1981, when American hostages held for more than a year in Tehran stepped off an airliner at the Algiers airport as the result of a deal between Iran and the United States that Algerian diplomats worked on for months.

"A happy ending might change the American view that we are Communists," a senior Algerian official said at the time.

From the time it won independence from France in 1962 after a long and bitter war, Algeria has maintained close ties with the Soviet Union, and also with hardline groups of different kinds.

But while Algeria is often in clear sympathy the aims of hardline organisations, it has steered clear of endorsing or supporting extremist tactics.

Still, it has been criticised harshly for allowing hijackers to go free when airline dramas have ended in Algiers.

In October 1977, Algerian officials negotiated face-to-face at the foot of a Japanese airlines DC-8 hijacked by Red Army guerrillas, securing the release of remaining hostages in exchange for a \$6 million ransom and the release of six comrades in Japanese jails.

The hijackers apparently were allowed leave Algeria quietly, as presumably happened at the end of the April 1988 hijacking of a Kuwait Airways jetliner to Algiers.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz were among those who criticised the decision to let the hijackers of the Kuwaiti jet — who had killed two of the passengers — go free.

Algeria issued a statement rejecting what it called an effort "to fling discredit on an action which saved precious human lives from murderous violence."

## Weinberger disputes McFarlane's claim

BOSTON (AP) — Former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane's claim that military mismanagement thwarted two air raids on radical groups in Lebanon in 1983 was challenged Friday by former Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

He's just as unreliable on this as he was on virtually everything else I ever did with him," Weinberger said in an interview with television station WCVB-TV.

In an interview shown Thursday on WCVB-TV's show "Hostage," McFarlane said the United States came close to mounting bombing raids twice in 1983 when government intelligence learned where the groups were training.

McFarlane said the missions were aborted because "of our own military chain of command."

In 1983, the truck bombing of a Marine barracks in Lebanon claimed the lives of hundreds of U.S. servicemen. McFarlane said the United States had "extremely good intelligence" that Hizbollah militants were training in barracks in a valley in eastern Lebanon.

Most Western hostages in Lebanon are believed held by factions of Hizbollah, Party of God, an Iranian-backed fundamentalist group.

In the first attempt, U.S. pilots circled so long over the area that Syrian air defences could have been able to "turn on, track them, shoot them down," McFarlane said.

McFarlane blamed the delay on "inept mismanagement" by the pilots' superiors.

McFarlane said Weinberger called off the second raid, which had been planned with the French government, because the defence secretary felt it was too risky.

Weinberger's decision resulted in "great damage to our credibility and put an end to any hopes of dealing with these terrorists," the former national security adviser said.

Weinberger strongly denied the allegation.

"There were certainly no planes in the air about to make a strike that were turned back, and there was most certainly no failure to cooperate," Weinberger said. "Those are just plain myths."

McFarlane was unavailable for further comment Friday. McFarlane spokeswoman Cindy Carpenter said in Washington. "She said he really had nothing more to say on the subject," she said.

McFarlane said Thursday there was never an effort planned to rescue the hostages because officials never had intelligence on where they were.

McFarlane pleaded guilty last year to four misdemeanor counts of withholding information from Congress about Reagan administration efforts to funnel military aid to the Nicaraguan contra rebels. He left his National Security Council (NSC) post in November 1985, but remained active in policymaking, leading an unsuccessful arms-for-hostages mission to Tehran in 1986.

He attempted suicide in 1987 after the Iran-contra scandal broke, but since has cooperated with prosecutors by testifying at the Oliver North trial.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Poll shows Americans oppose Israel's kidnapping

WASHINGTON (R) — Most Americans oppose Israel's abduction of Muslim cleric Abdul Karim Obeid and a majority of those polled now consider Israel to be an unreliable ally, an ABC News-Washington post poll indicated on Friday. The telephone poll, taken Wednesday and Thursday, indicated 51 per cent of those surveyed disapproved of the Israeli capture of Obeid. Thirty per cent approved of the move while 19 per cent had no opinion. The survey said 53 per cent of those polled believed that Israel was not a reliable ally, while 29 per cent believed the country was reliable. A similar poll taken on April 3 showed that 51 per cent considered Israel to be reliable.

### 17 drug smugglers hanged in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — Seventeen drug smugglers were hanged in public in the northeastern Iranian city of Mahabad Saturday, Iran's news agency IRNA said. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said they were convicted of selling, distributing and possession of 200 sacks of opium and 10 kg of heroin. The hangings took the number of people executed on drug charges in Iran this year to 756.

### Saudi Arabia beheads murderers

DAMMAM, Saudi Arabia (R) — Saudi Arabia publicly beheaded an Ethiopian and a Saudi after Friday prayers following their conviction for murder, the Interior Ministry said. Ethiopian Abdullah Adem Ahmad was executed in the Red Sea port of Jeddah for stabbing to death Ethiopian Fatema Rashid Ibrahim and her children, Abdul Rahman and Weyyan. Saudi Abdul Rahman Ahmad Abdul Rahman was beheaded in Mecca for killing another Saudi, Salem Abdul Aziz Salem. Murder, terrorism, rape and drug-trafficking are capital crimes in Saudi Arabia.

### Israeli 'loan shark' jailed

MIAMI (AP) — An Israeli convicted of exacting extortion payments on a loan he made to a woman artist was sentenced to 12 years in federal prison Friday. According to testimony presented by assistant U.S. attorneys Allan Sullivan and Judith Kozlowski, Moishe Meshulam Tel Aviv loaned \$12,000 to Miriam Hannon, a painter. The testimony from the March 1987 trial said he loaned her the money in November 1987 with the understanding it would be repaid in three weeks. Testimony introduced at a trial before U.S. District Judge Eugene P. Spellman indicates Hannon paid Meshulam \$10,000, the following February and \$5,000 in March. But he demanded \$27,000 more as "interest" under threat of bodily harm. According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) affidavit, agents found some of the artist's paintings when they executed a search warrant on Meshulam's apartment after his arrest April 14, 1988. Hannon died before she could testify against Meshulam. According to the government, Meshulam also used the name "Tony Bernardino." He claimed he was born in Italy but was adopted by an Israeli couple when he was still a child. A woman friend, Maria Victoria Clemente, also was convicted by the same jury, but will not be sentenced until next month.

### Turkish minister's resignation demanded

ANKARA (AP) — The main opposition party and a human rights group have called for Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu to resign because of the deaths of two leftist prison inmates on a hunger strike. Social Democrat Populist Party spokesman Cevdet Selvi said Sungurlu was solely responsible for the deaths of inmates Mehmet Yalcinkaya and Huseyin Husnu Erguc and that "he should step down." The two inmates, who had been on a hunger strike for 35 days, died Wednesday after they were transferred along with 310 other prisoners from Ekişehir province to a prison in Aydin, some 500 kilometres to the west. Nural Uzun, the prosecutor in Aydin, said the inmates died of dehydration. The daily Cumhuriyet reported Friday that Justice Ministry Under-Secretary Arif Yuksek said 23 other fasting inmates were in serious condition and had been transferred to the prison infirmary in Aydin.

### N. Yemen, S. Arabia hold top-level talks

NICOSIA (R) — North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani arrived in Jeddah Saturday to lead his country's delegation at the meeting of the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Council. The official Saudi Press Agency said Abdul Ghani was welcomed by Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, and was to begin talks with him later Saturday. Abdul Ghani is accompanied by ministers of the interior, education, information, agriculture and fisheries. The council last met in Sanaa in July, 1987.

### 'Omar Khayyam an Irishman'

LONDON (R) — Omar Khayyam was not a Persian poet but an Irish sheepfarmer whose most famous work was called "Rubiy's Hat," a London newspaper said Friday. In a response to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's joke that William Shakespeare was really an Arab called "Sheikh Speare," the Evening Standard said it had its own literary sensation. Rather than a 12th century teacher of astronomy and mathematics in a Persian observatory, the authentic Khayyam was called O'Mara Kevin who kept chickens in Cork during the late 18th century. O'Mara's masterpiece, dedicated to his girlfriend Ruby's Sunday toge, was deliberately mis-attributed by a jealous rival hearse. "The Rubiyat of Omar Khayyam." Key lines of "Rubiy's Hat" were later mistranslated by 19th century scholar Edward Fitzgerald, crucially altering the profound beauty of the original, the Standard said. What Fitzgerald rendered as "the moving finger writes and having writ moves on" should have read "the moody thinker drinks and having drunk moves on." Qadhafi's tongue-in-cheek claim was first heard by deputies of the Tunisian parliament last December when he told how Arabs had taught Europeans medicine, geography, time-keeping, astronomy and literature. "Sheikh Zubayr bin William was Shakespeare. Shakespeare came from sheikh," said Qadhafi, laughing as the Tunisian deputies applauded the pun.

## Statue of Faisal I restored in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Thousands of people gathered in one of the main squares of Baghdad Saturday to witness the restoration of the statue of the first king of Iraq, Faisal I.

The king, founder of modern Iraq, had fought with the legendary British military leader, (T.E.) Lawrence of Arabia, to carve the modern states of the region out of the crumbling Ottoman empire during World War I.

He reigned from the birth of the Iraqi state in 1921 until his death in 1933. His statue in the main square of the capital was knocked down when the monarchy was ended with a revolution in 1958.

His grandson, King Faisal II, was killed by revolutionary officers at the time.

Minister of Culture and Information Lutfi Nassiyaf Jassim told the crowd that the statue was reinstalled under direct instructions from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"This (action) is the brainchild of President Hussein who has high respect for King Faisal as the founder of the modern Iraqi state," Jassim added.

He described Faisal as "a sincere Arab leader," and denied that the reinstallation of the statue had been requested by "anybody."

The 2.5 metre high statue represents Faisal dressed in traditional bedouin dress riding an Arab stallion.

The government has spent \$3.2 million this year to renovate Baghdad's royal cemetery which contains the remains of Faisal I, his son Ghazi and grandson Faisal II.

Several books published recently in Iraq have praised the role of Faisal I and his son Ghazi in struggling against the British mandate over Iraq, which ended in 1932, and later British influence over the country.

King Ghazi was killed in a car crash in 1939.

## Negotiations set back

(Continued from page 1)

he told Reuters.

"There does seem to be a widespread feeling that this hostage problem has got to be tackled fundamentally and this is time to do it."

Goulding said that after three days of discussions in South Lebanon he had not yet "obtained concrete proof that Colonel Higgins is dead and I pray he is not dead."

The 44-year-old Vietnam veteran was commanding a 76-man observer unit attached to the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon when he was kidnapped Feb. 17, 1988.

Before Hizbollah's statement Saturday, hopes of an end to the week-long standoff had been growing.

U.S. President George Bush said Friday he believed a solution was possible after an offer by Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to help Washington to free the nine U.S. citizens believed held in Lebanon.

The Tehran Times, close to Iran's Foreign Ministry, said the next move was up to Washington.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| JORDAN TELEVISION   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Tel: 773111-19  |                               |
| PROGRAMME ONE   |                               |
| 15:30   | Koran                         |
| 15:40   | Programme review              |
| 15:45   | Children programme            |
| 17:10   | Football                      |
| 18:30   | News summary in Arabic        |
| 18:45   | Local programme               |
| 18:50   | Give Me a Break               |
| 19:15   | Local programme               |
| 19:40   | Programme review              |
| 20:30   | News in Arabic                |
| 21:40   | Programme review              |
| 21:50   | Local programme               |
| 22:40   | Varieties programme           |
| 23:00   | News summary in Arabic        |
| PROGRAMME TWO   |                               |
| 17:30   | Le monde magique chantal goya |
| 18:30   | La chance aux chansons        |
| 19:15   | News in French                |
| 19:45   | News in Hebrew                |
| 20:00   | Varieties programme           |
| 20:30   | Fall ups - Bleeps & Blunders  |
| 21:10   | Doc. "Assignment Adventures"  |
| 22:00   | News in English               |
| 22:20   | Shake Hands Forever           |
| PRAYER TIMES  |                               |
| 04:22   | Fajr                          |
| 05:49   | (Sunrise) Duha                |
| 12:41   | Dhuhr                         |
| 16:22   | 'Asr                          |
| 19:34   | Maghreb                       |
| 21:34   | 'Isha                         |
| CHURCHES  |                               |
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetich, Tel. 810740                    |                               |
| Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 682785                               |                               |
| St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590                                       |                               |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 635441                              |                               |
| Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543                            |                               |
| Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331                                |                               |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261                                |                               |
| St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751                                      |                               |
| Assiout International Church Tel. 682785                            |                               |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295                             |                               |
| The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815177, 821264 |                               |
| WEATHER   |                               |
| Bullens supplied by the Department of Meteorology.                  |                               |
| Normal summer weather is expected                                   |                               |

| JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.         |                        |
| Amman   | Min/Max. temp. 19 / 31 |
| Aqaba   | 25 / 40                |
| Deserts   | 18 / 36                |
| Jordan Valley   | 23 / 38                |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent. |                        |
| USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS  |                        |
| NIGHT DUTY  |                        |
| AMMAN:  |                        |
| Dr. Mohammed Al' Ajam   | 894184                 |
| Dr. Bahjat Badr   | 849362                 |
| Dr. Khaldoun Klib   | 826919                 |
| Dr. Ibrahim Abu Kouta   | 875480                 |
| First pharmacy  | 661912                 |
| Farid's pharmacy  | 782334                 |
| Al Asma pharmacy  | 637025                 |
| Naturokh pharmacy   | 623672                 |
| Al Salam pharmacy   | 636730                 |
| Yacoub pharmacy   | 644945                 |
| Shmies pharmacy   | 637660                 |
| Dr. Mohammed Al Shams   | (-) 815615             |
| Al Shams pharmacy   | (985236)               |
| Dr. Sulaiman Abu 'Adieh   | 98417                  |
| Khalil pharmacy   | 98417                  |
| EMERGENCIES   |                        |
| Civil Defence Department  | 661111                 |
| Civil Defence Immediate   | 630341                 |
| Rescue  | 199                    |
| Civil Defence Emergency   | 661714                 |
| Rescue Police   | 192, 621111, 637777    |
| Fire Brigade  | 891228                 |
| Blood Bank  | 775121                 |
| Highway Police  | 863402                 |
| Traffic Police  | 896390                 |
| Public Security Department  | 630321                 |
| Water and Sewerage  | 661176                 |
| Complaints  | 897467                 |
| Accident Municipality   | 787311                 |
| Complaints  | 787311                 |
| Telephone Information   | 121                    |
| Director's assistance   | 121                    |
| Overseas Calls  | 010296                 |
| Central Amman Telephone   | 0272273                |
| Registars   | 623101                 |
| Abdali Telephone Repairs  | 661107                 |
| Jordan Television   | 773111                 |
| Radio Jordan  | 773111                 |
| Water Authority   | 680108                 |
| HOSPITALS   |                        |
| AMMAN:  |                        |
| Green Medical Centre  | 813813/32              |
| Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.   | 642416                 |
| Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.   | 642417                 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity   | 642482                 |
| Palestine, Sunland  | 661714                 |
| Shmies Hospital   | 669131                 |
| University Hospital   | 848843                 |
| Al-Munshir Hospital   | 667219                 |
| The Islamic, Abdali   | 6612157                |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali   | 661646                 |
| Isfahan, Al-Munshir   | 771101/3               |
| Al-Badr, J. Asrafiyah   | 775112/6               |
| Army, Marja   | 897611/5               |
| Queen Alia Hospital   | 602240/9               |
| Amal Hospital   | 674155                 |
| ZARQA:  |                        |
| Zarqa Govt. Hospital  | (09)983323             |
| Zarqa National Hospital   | (09)991071             |
| Rua Suna Hospital   | (09)986782             |
| IBRD:   |                        |
| Pharmacia Hospital  | (02)273535             |
| Greek Catholic Hospital   | (02)272773             |
| Rua Al-Nawar Hospital   | (02)247100             |
| AQABA:  |                        |
| Princess Faysa Hospital   | (03)374111             |
| FOR THE TRAVELLER   |                        |

| QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)33209-5, where it should always be verified. |                                   |
| ARRIVALS  |                                   |
| Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)   |                                   |
| 16:15   | Aqaba (RJ)                        |
| 16:20   | Jeddah (RJ)                       |
| 16:25   | Cairo (RJ)                        |
| 16:30   | Dhahran (RJ)                      |
| 16:40   | Kuwait (RJ)                       |
| 16:45   | Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)             |
| 16:55   | Larnaca (RJ)                      |
| 17:05   | Doha, Bahrain (RJ)                |
| 17:10   | Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) |
| 17:45   | Jeddah (add.) (RJ)                |
| 17:45   | Cairo (RJ)                        |
| 17:50   | New York, Amsterdam (RJ)          |
| 18:20   | Fairlie (RJ)                      |
| 18:45   | Moscow, Geneva (RJ)               |
| 18:55   | Braunschweig, Frankfurt (RJ)      |
| 19:00   | London (RJ)                       |
| 19:40   | Istanbul, Ankara (RJ)             |
| 20:45   | Rome (RJ)                         |
| 21:15   | Rome (add.) (RJ)                  |
| 21:25   | Baghdad (RJ)                      |
| 21:30   | Dubai (RJ)                        |
| 21:35   | Sanaa (RJ)                        |
| 21:40   | Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)       |
| 22:45   | Bangkok (RJ)                      |
| Other Flights (Terminal 2)  |                                   |
| 06:25   | Damascus, Paris (AF)              |
| 11:30   | Jeddah (add.) (SV)                |
| 14:45   | Cairo (MS)                        |
| 15:25   | Kuwait (KU)                       |
| 16:40   | Doha, Bahrain (OF)                |
| 16:50   | Tripoli (LV)                      |
| 17:05   | Jeddah (SV)                       |
| 17:40   | Kuwait (add.) (KU)                |
| 18:45   | Sanaa (LI)                        |
| 19:45   | Aden (OA)                         |
| 21:25   | Cairo (MS)                        |
| MARKET PRICES   |                                   |
| Upward price in \$/kg   |                                   |
| Apples (golden)   | 500 / 500                         |
| Apples (Kashani)  | 300 / 250                         |
| Apples (mikan)  | 280 / 240                         |
| Apples (red)  | 300 / 450                         |
| Bananas   | 400 / 350                         |
| Bananas (Mukhammad)   | 350 / 300                         |
| Beans   | 320 / 450                         |
| Cabbages  | 100 / 75                          |
| Cauliflowers  | 250 / 180                         |
| Citrus  | 250 / 200                         |
| Corn  | 220 / 200                         |
| Cucumbers (large)   | 330 / 300                         |
| Cucumbers (small)   | 450 / 400                         |
| Eggplants   | 160 / 120                         |
| Garlic  | 240 / 200                         |
| Grapes  | 1250 / 1000                       |
| Green peas (red)  | 240 / 200                         |
| Lemons (yellow)   | 360 / 300                         |
| Lemons (green)  | 320 / 280                         |
| Melons (large)  | 300 / 250                         |
| Melons (small)  | 230 / 180                         |
| Onions  | 320 / 450                         |
| Oranges   | 400 / 350                         |
| Onions (dry)  | 170 / 140                         |
| Pumpkins  | 320 / 300                         |
| Peppers (red)   | 170 / 140                         |
| Peppers (green)   | 220 / 180                         |
| Potatoes  | 320 / 270                         |
| Tomatoes  | 100 / 80                          |







## More on the Royal wedding

AMMAN — Members of the Royal family Thursday congratulate the newly weds, Her Royal Highness Princess Zein Bint Al Hussein and Mr. Majdi Anwar Al Saleh, after the wedding ceremony last Thursday. Above the newly weds with His Majesty King Hussein, Her Majesty Queen Noor and other Royal family members (Photos by George Crystal).



## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**KING CONGRATULATES UAE:** His Majesty King Hussein has cabled congratulations to United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayyan on the anniversary of assuming his constitutional authorities. In his cable, the King wished the UAE president good health and the people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

**CABINET DECISIONS:** The Cabinet, meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, endorsed an agreement under which the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development provides Jordan with Kuwaiti dinar 10.5 million to finance the integration of Jordan's and Egypt's national electricity grids. The cabinet also endorsed the amendments proposed on the charter of the Arab Labour Organisation. It also approved educational programmes broadcast on radio and television to school students. (Petra)

**KHAMMASH IN BAGHDAD:** Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Al Khammash left for Baghdad Saturday to take part in a ministerial meeting designed to promote cooperation among the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries in the field of transport. The meeting is due to open in the Iraqi capital Sunday and the ministers of the four countries — Jordan, Iraq, North Yemen and Egypt — will attend a ceremony for the formal opening of an Arab satellite "Arabsat" station Monday. Apart from the formal meeting, Khammash is expected to hold bilateral talks with his Egyptian, Iraqi and North Yemeni counterparts on means of bolstering Jordan's cooperation with their countries in transport and telecommunications. (Petra)

**UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS:** Post offices around the country Saturday started handling applications from students wishing to enrol at Jordanian universities in accordance with an agreement which also entailed unifying the four universities registration process. The application procedure is expected to continue until Aug. 15 and a list of accepted students in the four universities will be announced by the end of the month, according to university officials here. The officials said that the applicants have a variety of 53 subjects in the scientific field and 24 subjects in arts to choose from. (Petra)

**CONGRATULATIONS:** The chief editor and staff of the Jordan Times congratulate their colleague Mr. Elias Nasrallah on the wedding of his daughter 'Abir to Spiro Khader. The wedding is taking place Sunday, 7 p.m., at Virgin Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweidyyeh. (J.T.)

**KHLEIFAT RECEIVES ROMANIAN ENVOY:** Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Saturday discussed with Romanian Ambassador Dimitrie Stancu bilateral relations and means of developing them. (Petra)

**INTERNATIONAL GAMES FOR PEACE:** A Jordanian athletic team will represent the Greater Amman Municipality at the international games for peace which will be held in Morocco in Aug. 28. Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawahdeh received invitations in this regard from mayors of a number of Moroccan cities where the matches will be held. (Petra)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- A plastic arts exhibition by the Student Affairs Department's Painting Club of the Yarmouk University at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- An exhibition of cartoons by the late Jordanian artist Rabah Sughayyar at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.
- A photo exhibition entitled "Bedouin Today" by Japanese photographer Koji Sato at the Royal Cultural Centre.

### THEATRE

- An Arabic play entitled "Thamam Thil" (Price of a Shadow) at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

### FILM

- A feature film entitled "Sounder" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:00 p.m.

## Paper urges people to take part in polls

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's leading Arabic daily newspaper Saturday called on eligible Jordanians to take part in the coming parliamentary elections which are expected in November.

Al Rafi reiterated His Majesty King Hussein's statement that the coming elections are intended as another step to bolster the national unity in Jordan following the amendment of the election law that followed the severance of links with the occupied West Bank.

The call followed Saturday's televised interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh who said that elections could take place between Nov. 8 and 18 this year.

All Jordanians regardless of their origin are united behind their King and the national cause, and are called on to display unity and to take part in the coming elections, the paper said.

Masaadeh said that candidates in the coming elections would be allowed to run in lists, and the government does not intend to interfere in the issue of voter lists.

### Candidates with political interests could run

Political parties have been banned in Jordan since 1957, but Masaadeh's statement indicated that the candidates sharing political interests could run in electoral alliances.

"I hope our candidates will be objective, appreciate their responsibilities and realise what the country needs to boost its existence and stability," the minister noted.

The minister said that nearly 800,000 voters have been registered so far and the total number was expected to reach 1.2 million.

Masaadeh said a national covenant governing all aspects of Jordan's economic, social and political life would be prepared after the elections, and this charter might allow political parties to resume activities under certain conditions.

King Hussein dissolved the Lower House of Parliament elected just before the 1967 war on July 30, 1988, a day before the Kingdom broke ties with the West Bank.

Half of the members of the 60-seat House represented the West Bank which had been united with Jordan since 1950.

According to a recent amendment, the total number of the Lower House of Parliament members will be 80.

Meanwhile, committees set up by the Ministry of Interior to revise voter lists for the coming elections are reported continuing their work in earnest.

A statement said that work is going ahead with urgency to register 19-year-old citizens who are eligible to vote, to cancel the names of convicted persons who are, by law, prevented to cast ballots and to handle complaints raised by members of the public concerning registration of voters.

The statement announced that the committees had embarked on their task on Aug. 1; and according to the law, they have 57 days to complete their work in all constituencies.

## Khayyat visits SOS children's village



Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Saturday paid a visit to the SOS Children's village at Tareq, near Amman, and paid tribute to those in charge of the project and commended the workers and employees endeavour to give protection and decent upbringing to the destitute and orphaned children there.

"Islam urges all members of the society to give protection and support and care for the orphans and the homeless," Khayyat said in a statement during his tour of the village which was opened by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor in 1987.

The minister was briefed on the different services offered to the 66 children who are being cared for by foster mothers at nine homes in a family-like atmosphere.

He was also briefed on the development of the SOS village which was built by the SOS Kinderdorf International Children's Village Organisation based in Austria.

The organisation, which was founded in 1960 in Austria by Hermann Gmeiner, aims to coordinate the worldwide work of the SOS Children's Villages, youth houses and other SOS facilities to

promote understanding between peoples and individuals.

The purpose of the SOS children's village is to help children who are in need of care after losing their parents, or those who are homeless due to other reasons.

The villages provide permanent homes for these children in small family — type groups of six to eight children who live and grow together like brothers and sisters. The head of a family is the SOS foster mother who provides the children with affection and a sense of security.

Last June an agreement was signed here, paving the way for the establishment of a regional office in Amman by the SOS organisation.

The Amman village is the 14th of its kind in the Arab World; and according to SOS officials, work is now underway for expansion which will include the setting up of a vocational training centre, a branch village in Aqaba and a kindergarten for the Aqaba branch.

## N. Yemeni cooperatives chief arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the North Yemeni Cooperative Organisation Sadek Abu Ras arrived here Saturday on a four-day visit to Jordan and talks with the Jordanian officials. Abu Ras is expected to meet with the Director of the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Mrawed Al Tal to discuss coop-

eration between cooperatives in Jordan and North Yemen. Tal has just returned from a visit to Baghdad where he took part in the meetings of the General Federation of Arab Farmers Unions. Tal also held separate meetings with heads of cooperatives attending the federation meeting in the Iraqi capital.



## University awards doctorate degree

AMMAN (J.T.) — A panel of professors at the University of Jordan headed by Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, the university president, Saturday awarded the doctorate degree to Mohammad Ahmad Al Majall. The award followed the pre-

sentation by Majall of his thesis entitled "The Arab Fighting Cities in Contemporary Poetry: Jerusalem, Beirut and Basra between 1948 and 1988." The photograph shows Majall presenting his thesis.



Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Saturday briefs Her Majesty Queen Noor on the ministry's activities and programmes during Queen Noor's visit to the ministry (Petra photo)

## Queen visits Youth Minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday paid a visit to the Ministry of Youth and was briefed on activities and programmes concerning the youth organisations and clubs around the country.

Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat briefed the Queen on the ministry's programmes which include cultural, sports and youth

activities in different parts of the country.

The Ministry of Youth is concerned with helping the young Jordanian generation to develop their skills and their potentials, Khleifat noted.

The Queen met with the directors of the various departments and senior officials who spoke about the ministry's functions in

youth and sports-related

Jordanian youth have a chance to develop their skills and their potentials, she said that such projects undertake voluntary work in different parts of the Kingdom.



## Qasem receives new Turkish envoy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkey's ambassador designate to Jordan Ocktay Aksoy Saturday handed Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem a copy of his credentials as ambassador to Jordan. Ocktay, who is expected to

present his credentials to His Majesty King Hussein later, succeeds Semih Belen who served as Turkey's ambassador to Jordan in January 1986 (Petra photo)

## Badran calls for revision of agricultural research policy

AMMAN (Petra) — Recent developments in the agricultural sector in the Kingdom requires a revision of the whole agricultural research policy and calls for double efforts in research work by specialists to increase the output, Agriculture Minister Adnan Badran said in a statement Saturday.

In order to fulfil the national economic objectives and to increase national exports of agricultural products and reduce imports, the method of production must be developed and modernised, the minister said at the opening session of a three-week training seminar attended by officials and technicians from the agricultural extension service employed in various parts of the country.

"Jordan strives to maximise its exploitation of its natural resources and compete with foreign products on the European markets," Badran said.

He underlined the importance of the scientific research and agricultural extension services in promoting output. He said that

the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer was established specifically to achieve that goal.

The centre's director general, Yousef Rushdi, addressed the opening session, stressing the need for training personnel in extension services.

Rushdi said that work is under way for the construction of the centre which will turn out trained cadres who will be needed to carry on with the process of ex-

tension service. Lecturers from the University of Jordan will deal with topics concerning agricultural extension and their application in the seminar which is attended by extension service staff from the country's five agricultural regions.

The seminar is being held at the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer.

**JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO., LTD.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., Ltd. announces that the closing date of tenders No. 19F/89 (design, supply, supervision, erection and commissioning of mine shop at Eshidiya Mine) is extended to 12.00 hours local time Thursday 14.9.1989, instead of 15.8.1989.

Wasef Al-Jarrah  
Managing Director

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Swedish Embassy in Amman will move to new premises effective from Monday, Aug. 14, 1989. Visiting hours: Sunday - Monday and Wednesday - Thursday 09:00 - 12:00 a.m. Address plates are as below:

**Swedish Embassy**  
P.O. Box 830535  
**AMMAN**  
Telephone: 669177/78, 668521  
Telefax: 669179  
Telex: 22039 SVENSK JO



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1972.

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Jordan Times Advertising Department.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## Central Bank half-floats dinar

FOR two months now, the Central Bank has given the fixed exchange rate of the dinar a try. But the results were negative. Foreign exchange earners were compelled to turn to the black-market because of 35 per cent difference between the market rate and the official fixed rate. The Central Bank finally got the message and did not waste more time. As of Aug. 1, the dinar was again floated to find its right level which can clear the market without causing acute shortages. The commercial banks were formally allowed to quote market prices for their incoming and outgoing transfers which most of them were doing any way, but under cover.

The Central Bank singled out a short list of commodities to receive favoured treatment, i.e., the official rate, which currently represents a 36 per cent discount. The short list included basic foodstuffs, certain agricultural inputs and the expenses of Jordanian students abroad. Pressures may cause the list to grow and get longer down the road. The margin on the other hand, may become wider and more costly.

In effect this step meant that the dinar is floating as far as 80 per cent of the market is concerned, and is fixed and subsidised by 36 per cent for the balance of the market. It also means that the

decision of what to subsidise, and to what extent, is left to the Central Bank instead of the competent authorities at the Ministries of Finance and Supplies.

It is of course expected that commercial banks will not finance the importation of the favoured commodities, because they are not in the business of losing money. So it will be left to the Central Bank to come up with the cheap foreign exchange estimated to range around \$50 million a month.

The capacity of the Central Bank to provide this size of money is dependent on receiving substantial amounts of Arab aid. But even in that case the Ministry of Finance may not be willing to swallow the bullet and finance the sizeable loss of more than JD 12 million a month in the form of implicit subsidy to the importers of the favoured commodities.

However, drawing on past experience, it is conceivable to envisage such a possibility, because the Treasury was always in the business of losing money. The question is whether the IMF will also swallow the new implicit subsidy of around JD 150 million a year, to be added to the deficit already running at around 23 per cent of gross national product. If that happened, off-budget subsidy will be more than double the explicit subsidy

tolerated in the budget.

One may wonder whether it is reasonable or advisable at this time to invent and introduce new subsidies, as the action of the Central Bank inevitably means. We know for sure that we must do our best to minimise subsidies in order to reduce financial deficit. It will be surprising to introduce such massive subsidy which no one asked for, and then worry about its phasing out or removal in the future. In that case we may be inviting trouble.

The Central Bank was realistic and daring when it floated the dinar, as long as it is not able to support the fixed rate. But, is it advisable to experiment with a double exchange rate system and the distortions that go along with it, together with a prohibitive price to the Treasury of that magnitude? The answer is no, but the government may have different views.

Economic and monetary policies should not be half-hearted. If we are convinced of floating the dinar, let it be a full and real floating, whereby the Central Bank can and should intervene, not by fixing rates and promoting black market, nor by ordering the banks not to exceed a ceiling, but by influencing supply and demand as a regulator and major player in the market.

By Dr. Fahed Fauck

## Noble gesture

THE significance of the Saudi Arabian financial support to Jordan in the tune of \$200 million goes beyond its intrinsic monetary value. In substantive terms this Saudi aid tells a magnificent story of fraternal assistance to Jordan and deep confidence in its financial and economic institutions, not to mention the long standing and unshaken political confidence in the Hashemite Kingdom and what it stands for regionally and internationally. Surely the importance and relevance of the \$200 million supersedes its value in dollars and cents.

And coming as it does at this critical juncture, the Saudi Arabian financial help deserves the deepest appreciation and gratitude of all Jordanians as its cumulative economic effect will touch everybody. On the personal level, the entire country is deeply indebted to His Majesty King Fahd for making this significant assistance possible at a time when it is needed most. This noble and wise Saudi gesture has been a constant feature of the Saudi dynasty that goes back to decades.

And in the wake of the Saudi aid, time is opportune for other Arab governments to emulate it in order to accelerate Jordan's determination to overcome its economic woes. Needless to say, Jordan constitutes a principal component of the total Arab defence infrastructure. Without Jordan's potent defence capabilities, the western flank of the Arab Nation in the Middle East would become wantonly compromised. In this vein, it is common knowledge that the economic security of Jordan is an indispensable and integral part of the entire Jordanian military security posture. To undermine Jordan economically and fiscally is tantamount to weakening its defence capabilities and threatening its resolve to defend the Arab Nation. Seen against this backdrop, the Saudi financial aid to Jordan is an investment in the integrated Arab defence plan. Other Arab assistance would likewise fortify this investment in the service of the Arab World and its defence needs. As is well-known, the Arab Nation is being continuously threatened by regional and international enemies and any weakening of its overall defensive posture would render it recklessly vulnerable and make it an easy prey for the enemies of the nation. Jordan and Jordanians are deeply touched by the Saudi gesture and extend their full gratitude.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

SAUDI Arabia's decision to come to the aid of Jordan and King Fahd's statement that his country will continue its backing for King Hussein's leadership was given prominence in local Jordanian Arabic dailies Saturday. Al Ra'i daily commented on the development, and the just announced Saudi financial aid to the Kingdom by saying that it is a genuine display of solidarity among Arab brothers. The paper said indeed Saudi-Jordanian relations are exemplary and should be copied by the rest of the Arab World. The Saudi statement, the paper added, is a very positive development pointing to a true solidarity among the Arab countries and can only contribute to further bolstering links between the two Kingdoms. Above all, the Saudi statement reflects the Arab Nation's deep appreciation of Jordan's political and pan-Arab stands and its policies at all levels. As the Arabs realise that the strength of Jordan is part of the strength of the whole nation, the paper continued. It said that Jordan will continue to serve as a strong fortress in the face of external threats and a nation that will maintain endeavours to bolster inter-Arab cooperation and enhance solidarity among the Arab states.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily discusses the hostage question in Lebanon and repeats an open accusation of Israel that it was behind the escalation of tension in the Middle East because it abducted the Shi'ite religious leader from his home in southern Lebanon. Abdul Rahim Omar says that the current flurry of diplomatic activity and the massing of naval forces in the sea came in the wake of Israel's action which triggered the assassination of Colonel Higgins by the extremist Lebanese group. The writer says that the world's attention is now being focused on the hostage question; and probably Cripples, the next hostage threatened to be killed by his abductors, is now the most important person in the world in view of all the attention being directed towards him by the United States and the world community at large; and in the light of ongoing mediation efforts to save his life. Omar says that, while the Arabs continue to be preoccupied with the hostage issue, and while they sympathise with the families of all hostages they also turn their attention to Palestine where the whole population lies hostage to Israel's repression. The Arabs in general and the families of the abducted people in Palestine cannot help feeling that the United States is directly or indirectly responsible for the ordeal of the Palestinians and the hostages in Lebanon.

Sawt Al Shaab daily said in an editorial Saturday that Jordan, which is confronted with a very chronic economic and financial problem, had never lost its confidence in itself or its Arab brothers. The Kingdom has faced the problem bravely but also had looked to its sister states for assistance which came from Saudi Arabia, the country that appreciates Jordan's national stand and its wise policies in dealing with pan-Arab affairs, the paper noted. It said that Saudi Arabia realises that Jordan is facing a Zionist conspiracy designed to destroy the national economy and deal a devastating blow to the Arab order, and has decided to extend a helping hand to this country at the critical moment. Jordan, which deeply appreciates King Fahd's move, feels that it is being supported by word and deed by its sister states as it continues its relentless endeavours to serve the Arab cause and to stand firm in the face of Israel's expansionist and colonial designs in the Arab region, the paper added. The paper said that Arab countries appreciate Jordan's position and the Kingdom's steadfastness over the past 40 years in the face of external threats.

AMMAN — The Bush administration's approach to Middle East peacemaking is based on a philosophy which sees changes in Israeli political thinking as an inevitable element in any realistic move towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict, according to an American expert who was closely involved in the process that led to the separate 1979 Camp David peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

William Quandt, who served the Carter administration as a senior State Department official, asserts that the Bush White House took the first step in the philosophical scenario when Secretary of States James Baker called on Israel in May to abandon its "ideological claim to a greater Israel." The U.S.-envisaged process, Quandt says, now involves convincing the Israeli body politic that territorial compromise is the only key to comprehensive peace with the Arabs and the political changes that will accompany such a conviction, which will be conducive to bring about a comprehensive settlement.

According to Quandt, who delivered two lectures on American policy in the Middle East in Amman last week, Washington is seeking to "influence (and check) the Israeli trend towards 'moving to the extremist' right," which rejects return of any of the occupied territories. The continuation of the dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the U.S. government is part of the American quest and it is also a "channel to 'normalise' the U.S. role as a mediator in the conflict," Quandt said.

According to Quandt, the right-wing Likud bloc in Israel enjoys the support of the Sephardic community (Jews who emigrated to Israel from Arab countries) not because this particular sector of the electorate endorses the hardline approach adopted by the party but because of the discrimination oriental Jews suffered under successive Labour governments. He points out that there are very few Sephardic Jews who have moved to settlements in the occupied territories and this could be taken as a sign of their position on Palestinian rights. Thus, the Sephardic community could be one of the focal points of the American moves to steer Israeli thinking towards accepting the centrality of territorial compromise in any peace settlement, according to Quandt.

### Failure of Camp David

The former American official, who is now doing research in Jerusalem, argues that the Camp David treaty was "a major watershed" in Middle East politics, but agrees that it failed to achieve anything substantial other than bilateral peace between Israel and Egypt. Even at that, he says, "there is no warmth in peace. (The treaty) did not lead to the removal of any barriers or to friendly relations."

At the same time, the accords produced a "triangular strategic relationship" among Israel, the U.S. and Egypt and removed Egypt from the military confrontation scene, freeing Israel to launch its 1982 invasion of Lebanon, "which paid the highest price for (the treaty) and continues to pay a terribly high price."

It is unlikely that Israel would have launched an invasion of "such a scale and ferocity" had it not been for the departure of Egypt from the immediate Arab military equation, he adds.

The Camp David agreement failed in realising the main objective of comprehensive peace in the region since "it was too thin a base" and "inadequate" to address the basic issue of the conflict — the Palestinian problem. "The Palestinians were not involved in the accord, which focussed more on the process than substance and left an obscure formula calling for 'negotiations based on the principles of (U.N. Security Council) Resolution 242 to settle the problem," Quandt recalls. The obscurity was intentional, he says, since Israel, headed by then Prime Minister Menachem Begin, "did not agree that 242 meant Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories" and could have aborted the accord in its final stages.

Briefly reviewing developments in the Middle East in the past 10 years, Quandt emphasised that there has been very little change in the political leaderships, and, by extension, little impact

on the political systems in the Arab World. He points out that Egypt remained committed to the Camp David accord despite the 1981 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who signed the accords. Another major event was the 1987 power struggle in South Yemen, but it did not bring about any changes in the country's political system. Quandt did not refer to the coups in Sudan.

The political map of the region remains much the same as it was in 1979 except that Lebanon "is in total collapse." Egypt is now back in the Arab fold and the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories "caught everyone by surprise (and) undermined the belief that the Palestinians inside the occupied territories are unable to take any initiative" and warranted a new Arab as well as international approach to the issue.

However, he argues that by and large the regimes in the Arab countries directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict have proven their stability and quashed the predictions of many who had raised questions over the long-term survival of some Arab leaderships.

Quandt also sees the eight-year Gulf war, which came to an end with a ceasefire last August, as having achieved nothing for either side except having sacrificed almost a million lives and consumed tens of billions of dollars. He notes that both Iran and Iraq are ruled by the same leaderships, both remain effectively on the same borders as when the war broke out and a comprehensive peace settlement is still elusive.

### Redefining priorities

However, Quandt finds an increasing "preoccupation" in the region with internal economic problems and a "redefining of priorities." He points out to the "petrodollar boom" in the seventies and early eighties which heralded instant wealth but "very little long-term development." There is now "a growing realisation towards internal economic problems" as well as changes towards more "social and political justice."



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# Simple truth vs. institutional truth

There is 'institutional truth' favoured by politicians, the military and commerce — and there is painful reality. That is the choice John K. Galbraith, economist and political thinker, put before the women graduates of the elite Smith College, Massachusetts, in this commencement address.

IT WILL not be my purpose, you will be pleased to know, to offer you instruction as to your future manners, morals or civic responsibilities. My purpose today is strictly functional; it is to warn you of the grave choice you face in the years ahead.

It is not that of a career. In this affluent and flexible world careers can readily be changed if your first decision proves unduly oppressive.

Nor is it the choice of a husband. They too can readily be changed if that seems desirable. Nothing has been more liberating in our time than our acceptance that adolescent errors of ardour need not be endured for a lifetime. And as my wife, a Smith graduate, would advise, husbands can, with a little effort, be remoulded to fit your personal needs and convenience.

Nor will money be problem. Most of you will belong to that financially favoured part of our polity which is adequately protected in its well-being — that minority which, according to current Washington doctrine, must be protected in its affluence lest its energy and initiative be impaired. (Your position will be in contrast to that of the poor, to whom money, especially if from public sources, is held to be deeply damaging).

In this financially tolerant

world you will find it far easier to make money than your economic courses have implied. Any financial deprivation you will suffer in the years ahead will be at the cost of things you don't really need.

I come now to your real choice. Your real choice will be in the realm of truth. Specifically, it will be in deciding whether you will be guided by sometimes inconvenient, even painful reality or by what I will call institutional truth.

Institutional truth in our times bears no necessary relation to simple truth. It is, instead, what serves the needs and purposes of the large and socially pervasive institutions that increasingly dominate modern life. Institutional truth is what serves the organisations that dominate and guide our military affairs — the military-industrial complex or, in common reference, the Pentagon, and extending out through the revolving doors to the great weapons firms and on to captive congressmen of Capitol Hill. And institutional truth is what serves our great foreign policy apparatus — the State Department, the National Security Council and the CIA. It is also what serves the current interest of the great institutions of the financial world. And it is what sells products and makes money for the great business enterprises.

Even the briefest list of the institutional truths to which you will have personal exposure is, I think, compelling.

Thus, by employment or perhaps an unhappy and one hopes brief liaison, you may have future association in some way with the military establishment. There you will encounter our most powerful commitment to institutional truth. You will be required to believe that in an age of massive overkill we need even more nuclear weapons; you will be expected to believe that we need modernisation — a wonderful word — of our greatly redundant missile inventory; and you will be expected to believe that we must go on to ever more esoteric, ever more destabilising weaponry, including, with the departure of Mr. Reagan, the partly orphaned Strategic Defence Initiative.

These, the institutional truths of the Pentagon and its outreach, you will be expected to accept. You will be required also to speak with a special solemnity of deterrence, of the Cruise Missile, the B-1 Bomber and especially of the Stealth Bomber, against which, you will be required to observe with approval, the Russians can mount no presently known defence.

The institutional truth of our foreign policy establishment you will find almost equally exacting. In the event of your association with the Department of State or in suitably clandestine fashion, God forbid, with the Central Intelligence Agency or even in private life with the eminent Council on Foreign Relations, your beliefs will be strongly subject to the institutional view.

That there has recently been change in the Soviet Union you will have to concede. But this, according to the institutional

truth, is temporary. And it could be another example of devious Russian trickery going back to Czars. Accordingly, with relaxing tensions you will believe that it is imperative that the United States not relax; on the contrary, as the Communist threat recedes, you will know that we must be more vigilant than ever. Relaxation in a time of relaxation is especially relaxing and therefore especially dangerous. That you must believe or anyhow say.

It is now clear in our time that other nations do not want to be governed from Moscow, as also not from Washington. This is everywhere evident. And as the Soviets have had the blood-drenched lesson of Afghanistan, so we earlier that of Vietnam. The institutional truth holds, however, that the Soviets are still relentlessly, if now rather more surreptitiously, expansionist. Accordingly, we must everywhere be on guard. The danger remains great in Nicaragua and El Salvador, as it was a few years ago in Grenada. But all frontiers are vulnerable, and our nuclear umbrella must be over all our friends.

You will wonder if the Russians really want responsibility for any task as intricate as running the economy of Japan, as also whether we want responsibility for the economy of Poland. All such thoughts you will be required to suppress. They are not in keeping with institutional truth.

Those of you who join the foreign policy establishment must always have one basic rule in mind. In any great organisation, and notably in the foreign policy establishment, it is far, far safer to be wrong with the majority than to be right alone. And more reputable too. I speak here from personal experience. Those of us

who, while in public office, opposed our Vietnam involvement, as politely it is now called, have never enjoyed the same serene reputation, as those who urged our intervention and bravely called forth the bombers.

I come now to politics. Some of you, I trust many, will seek elective office or be involved actively with those who do. This is good. It is a rewarding life, and not elsewhere can you so successfully combine a sense of service with study of the more eccentric extremes of social anthropology.

But in politics you will encounter the most esoteric of our institutional truths. Here you will encounter and perhaps vouchsafe the belief that, although we are still the world's richest country, we must tolerate in our great cities some of the world's most devastating and devastated slums — that in any movement from Calcutta or the favelas of Rio de Janeiro to the South Bronx little difference in deprivation will be detected. But, you will be required to believe, we can do nothing about it.

More public housing, adequate welfare payments, adequately paid teachers, sufficient recreational facilities, more community action programmes, would be, our wealth notwithstanding, too expensive. Additionally, such expenditures would, as I've noted, be damaging to the morals and economic moral of those so helped. All this you will be required to believe. Not believing, you will risk being considered subversive by your fellow statepersons.

Those among you who go to Washington will be most pressed to embrace the institutional truth. But so will those of you who go to Wall Street. The financial world also has a powerful commitment

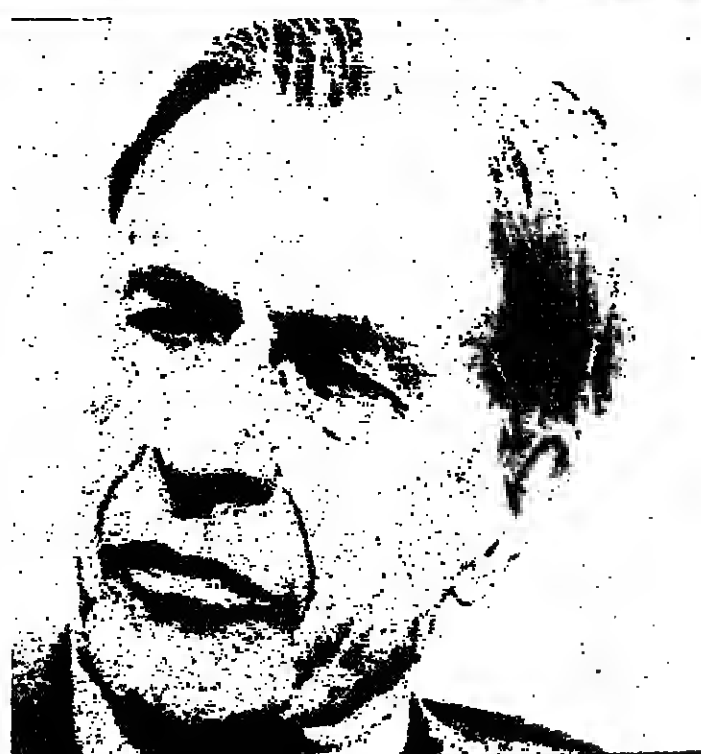
to institutional truth.

Here I must allow myself another personal note. I am not opposed to the making of money. Once, some years ago, I happened to be near Trinity Church at the top of Wall Street when the offices were closing. The crowds just released from hours of diligent self-enrichment surged out and by me. I was struck by a thought: how much better that this throng was committed to making money than were it involved with war, politics or religion. But here too in the financial community are strong and required beliefs.

The institutional truth of the financial world holds that association with money implies intelligence. And it holds broadly that the greater the amount of money, the greater the intelligence. And that the pursuit of money by whatever design within the law is always benign. This is the institutional truth of Wall Street; this you will be required to believe.

In truth, the larger the amount of money commanded, the greater very often the error, on occasions even the stupidity. So it was with the men (and, in the manner of the great banks, the few women) who made those loans to Latin America — loans that represented the much praised recycling of Arab oil revenues and that, not infrequently, were cycled on to private accounts in the Swiss banks. So it was more recently when some of our most celebrated financial minds took the largest and bravest positions before the 1987 crash. And so yet more recently with the operations of the great financial house of Drexel Burnham Lambert.

That all financial operations are inherently benign is an even more compelling example of institutional truth. In these last years corporate raiding, lever-



Galbraith: Those of us who, while in public office, opposed our Vietnam involvement, have never enjoyed the same serene reputation, as those who bravely called forth the bombers

aged buyouts and the mergers and acquisitions mania have increased the debt structure of our industry dramatically and dangerously. They have also diverted attention from the serious problems of management and on occasion brought to the command of our business enterprises owners who did not even know what their newly acquired firm produced. That this good, that laissez-faire, laissez-passer will always provide, is the institutional truth that awaits you even at Morgan Guaranty.

So far I have been discussing institutional truth in its grander manifestation. But not all of you are headed for the Defence Department or the State Department of Capitol Hill or Wall Street. Some of you very wisely will go on to the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and will find your place in the great companies that comprise the free enterprise system. Alas, there too you will find required truth, although perhaps, as compared with Wall Street, on a slightly less munificent scale.

There, depending on your employer, you will be expected to believe in the curative powers of bran-filled breakfast foods, Extra Strength Tylenol or Maalox Plus. This may be our least harmful form of institutional truth. No great public damage is threatened. You will not yourself be greatly affected unless your institutional commitment you are led to ingest unreasonable quantities of the product yourself.

Such then is your future. A daily choice extending on through the years between institutional truth and truth, between the convenient belief and reality.

You will not be in doubt as to my hope. It is that you will choose reality. And be especially in con-

flict with the turgid tendencies of institutional truth on military and foreign policy. This is a time, I again emphasise, of great change in both the socialist and the non-socialist lands.

Institutional truth, however, is sadly in conflict with the needed accommodation to that change — accommodation that, especially on weaponry and arms control, would herald a safer, more peaceful world.

I read recently of a Washington inter-agency report responding to recent changes in the Soviet Union. It was described as urging President Bush to, and I quote, "walk a fine line between a stand-pat policy and occasional initiatives calculated to advance American interests." I urge you to join me in applause for the delicacy of that response.

There is a further case for reality as opposed to institutional truth. That is the very considerable personal pleasure to be found in pursuing it. To the adherents of the institutional truth there is nothing more inconvenient, nothing that so contributes to discomfort, than open, persistent, articulate assertion of what is real.

In that assertion and in the displeasure and discomfort so caused, there can be a wonderfully malign enjoyment. Only rarely in life can one be so mean to such a good end.

It may, as I suggested, be safer to be wrong with the majority. But there is something wonderful in seeing a wrongheaded majority assailed by truth. And I venture to think, or anyhow to hope, that it was for this that your Smith education prepared you.

I pray that you leave these lovely precincts, Paradise Pond, John M. Green Hall, with a powerful commitment to old Pulitzer rule — that in all life one should comfort the afflicted and be comforted, and especially when they are comfortably, contentedly, even happily wrong.



'Truths': that money implies intelligence... that poverty must be tolerated... that the USA needs even more nuclear weapons... that the Soviets are still relentlessly expansionist

## The Earth comes first

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — Some criticised President Bush's pledge to establish a Moon colony and a manned flight to Mars for lacking specifics about dates and money. But the real trouble is the idea itself.

Nostalgia for the proud glow that suffused the nation, and much of the world, when Neil Armstrong made his "giant step for mankind" 20 years ago isn't much reason for an extravagant new commitment. Have people forgotten how quickly it faded and left us with our real problems?

Space exploration is useful as well as satisfying to our innate, healthy desire to know more about the universe surrounding us. But it can be done at least as efficiently and at vastly less expense without shooting people off the home planet for a long time to come.

There are some quirky, narrow-based arguments for manned missions. One is NASA's eagerness for grandiose projects to keep it in business. Another is the wish of a few to be the ones to provide a vicarious great adventure to the rest of us. The former astronaut Rusty Schweikert advances the odd thesis that mankind's genetic pool is wearing thin and can be refreshed by extraterrestrial exposure.

The real appeal, though, is an underlying sense of need for a "vision", an enterprise to give wings to the imagination and a feeling of grand purpose as we go about mundane affairs. Looking to the Moon and Mars is looking in the wrong direction. The time has come to find that vision on Earth. We have seen it in the photographs from space, the luminous blue ball swathed in lacy mists, sailing serenely through the emptiness. You could put a tiny "x" on the picture and mail it to friends with the message "That's where I live." But it doesn't look like that down here, and the way things

are going we don't know how much longer it will look like that from out there.

The warnings come in a barrage now: sick seas awash with suffocating algae, ultraviolet radiation due to ozone depletion, global warming, loss of topsoil (24 billion tons a year) as the population swells (by 96 million a year), loss of air-purifying forests.

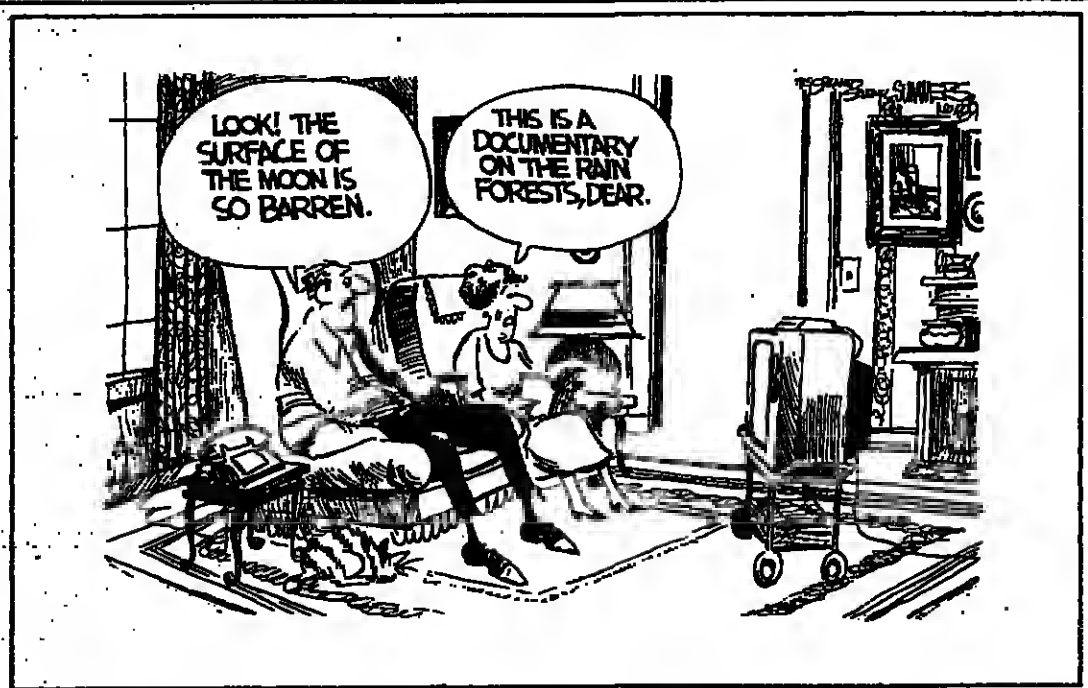
And they are beginning to be heard. At the Paris summit meeting, the Group of seven put major emphasis on the need for far-reaching environmental initiatives. For the first time, there was top-level recognition and environment are linked problems that must be addressed in a common context.

President Francois Mitterrand of France, who supports the idea of a European environmental agency, has pointed out that there is no "political authority capable of taking decisions on a global scale" and that "the level of decision is not equal to the risk".

This is true, but environment has become a mainstream political issue in many countries, including Communist-run states. "Green" parties are sprouting in most democracies. People are ready to pay attention when clear, specific programmes are offered.

The American Forestry Association launched a campaign to plant 100 million trees in U.S. cities by 1992, which would take only a drop out of the carbon dioxide bucket. But experts have concluded that planting lots more trees and protecting existing forests could make a significant difference in this menace to the atmosphere.

The U.S. General Accounting Office estimates that there are 130,000 to 425,000 hazardous waste sites in the U.S. The Environmental Protection Agency has started cleanups of 257 and completed 48 since 1980, according to World Watch Institute.



Public concern and availability of information have come a long way since Ronald Reagan assured everybody that "acid rain comes from trees" and is nothing to worry about.

But the explosion of awareness has a drawback. There are so many aspects to the degradation we are imposing on our planet, so many kinds of problems, scientific, industrial and agricultural, local, national and global, that it's hard to know where to start.

Mind-boggling disasters are predicted. Proposals come pouring out at a bewildering rate, without priorities or clear focus.

This is the subject to pull together in a grand vision, to offer the goal of a sustainable earth, to provoke hope through action in which all can participate, and not just arouse dread.

It will take the coordinated expertise of a great many people, just as man-on-the-moon did. It will take a lot of our money, in

the same way. It will take explanation, exhortation, provision of a unifying understanding that saving the earth is a noble, exhilarating endeavour in which all can take pride.

We do need to look forward to something exciting. Return to the Moon? Maybe some day. Anyway, it won't be the same second time. For the poetry of leadership is to seek, let Mr. Bush proclaim: Meanwhile, back on the earth... — New York Times.

## Declaring war on cars

By Ursula Mommsen-Henneberger

HAMBURG (DPA) — Jammed streets and stinking fumes from unstopable tides of cars threaten to sabotage cities as we know them unless traffic planners and politicians act fast.

The counter-measures that are on the way, especially in the West, reduce the fumes and the traffic and even ban cars from city centres, but they are not always popular.

Many West German towns have imposed 30-kilometre-per-hour speed limits in residential streets. Since drivers often flout limits, the streets have to be outfitted with speed bumps, or cars are forced to wind around tubs of plants set up on the roads.

A full-scale debate is under way on whether 30 should be the limit on all streets in built-up areas.

Munich is planning to issue residents with parking licences so that visitors cannot park any more in some parts of the city.

Hamburg has encouraged commuters to use urban trains by setting up "park and ride" car-parks at suburban stations.

Other cities are promoting cheap public transport passes that make buses and trains more attractive, or setting aside bus-only lanes on arterial roads. West

Berlin is refusing to build nine planned parking buildings because they only encourage motorists.

This is kids' stuff compared to moves in Los Angeles. An unprecedented plan worked out by U.S. environmental protection watchdogs means households in the polluted Californian conurbation will only be allowed to own so many cars.

Employers will have to promote carpooling under pain of fines, an urban rail system is planned and buses are to be adjusted so they can run on methanol instead of oil-based fuel. The whole anti-smog plan is supposed to be in place by the year 2007.

Other U.S. cities have so far only tinkered with the problem, with little success.

Ideas tried include special rush-hour lanes on freeways for cars with three or more people aboard. But not even \$2 tolls on bridges and tunnels into Manhattan and astronomical parking building charges have scared off New York City motorists.

Scandinavia has tried other ways to block the hordes of private cars. Next year, private motorists in downtown Stockholm will have to buy and display

an expensive public transport pass under their car windcreens. The price will fund frequent bus and train services, and might just persuade motorists to leave their cars at home too.

The Dutch government plans to impose "entry fees" for the inner cities and raise the taxes on motorised commuters.

Austria already has extensive pedestrian-only zones in its cities and is discussing a similar fee for cars in cities.

Paris, the city that even has traffic jams at midnight (on the Champs-Elysees) is tackling traffic another way. It wants to build a 50-kilometre network of tunnels where cars can once again speed through the city. But critics say that is pandering to motorists and will only mean more polluted air.

In Italy, Bologna and Milan are the cities that have managed what Rome is not disciplined enough to achieve: banning all but local cars from the city centres during the daytime. Rome is supposed to have such a law but it is more honoured in the breach.

Switzerland has experimented with similar ideas and run into opposition from a Car Party, specially set up in 1985 to capture the government and thwart all measures against motorising liberty.

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# Saudi aid, CBJ moves boost dinar

By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan's (CBJ) decision Thursday to merge two local banks, the receipt of \$200 million as grant from Saudi Arabia and the CBJ announcement that it would intervene in the market to stabilise the dinar have had positive effects on the market and the currency, Finance Minister Basel Jaraneh said Saturday.

"As a result of these events, the Jordanian dinar is stronger today," Jaraneh told the Jordan Times.

Commercial banks were buying and selling dollars in the range of 830 to 850 fils Saturday, compared with Wednesday's close of 850/870 fils. At the same time, the officially-set exchange rate went slightly down in the favour of the dollar, at 853 fils compared with 875 fils Wednesday.

Jaraneh said Saturday the

move to take control of the affairs of Petra Bank and the Jordan Gulf Bank does not negatively effect investor confidence.

"The CBJ has taken this step to consolidate the banking system in Jordan," he said. "I do not think that this will discourage investors."

CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi also struck the same positive note. "The two banks are undercapitalised so we decided to merge them but it

shouldn't discourage investors because we are protecting the depositors."

The Arabic daily Al Ra'i newspaper Saturday quoted Nabulsi as saying the "merger was a preemptive move to stop the collapse of these two banks which would have reflected badly on the national economy."

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times Saturday, Nabulsi dismissed reports that there was a run Saturday on Petra Bank deposits in the range of JD 3.5 million. "No, it is not true," he said. "In both banks it's business as usual."

Mohammad Abu Dalhoum, head of the deposits department at Petra Bank, said: "Nothing has changed in terms of deposits."

The same situation also emerged in the Jordan Gulf Bank in almost all its branches, according to Jihad Haddadin, head of the deposit section. "In fact, deposits were better than withdrawals today."

Saturday was the first working day for both banks after the CBJ took

control of their affairs and installed a new board of directors for the new joint entity.

A senior Petra Bank management source said a top-level meeting was held Saturday to study the situation and there was no reason for any alarm. "The situation is very much normal and there is no reason for any worry," said the source. "All the bank's branches reported normal operations Saturday and we do not see any problem whatsoever."

Nabulsi also categorically denied reports that the CBJ had pumped in money to prop up Petra Bank. Some sources had said that the CBJ had given \$1.8 million to the bank Saturday.

Jaraneh earlier had said: "If need be the CBJ will inject funds into the banks but indications so far are that it will not be necessary."

A banking source said Petra Bank may have received the quoted figure as part of a CBJ decision, which was announced Saturday, that it would supply commercial banks with additional amounts of foreign exchange to

cover imports included in last week's list of commodities for which foreign exchange was to be made available from the Central Bank.

The CBJ is to sell an amount of JD 16.5 million to commercial banks and financial institutions at 815 fils to the dollar to be sold to customers at 820 fils to the dollar.

Meanwhile, speculation surrounded reports that Jordan was to receive or had received a sizeable sum as "non-interest deposit" from Saudi Arabia. Some said the figure was \$200 million, coming from Saudi and Gulf investment houses, but others said it was \$1 billion. Nabulsi rejected the reports as "not true."

Jordan received a \$200 million grant from Saudi Arabia to help boost its economy. Al Ra'i also quoted an official CBJ source as saying that a half billion dollar deposit was expected soon.

"I don't know if we are getting any more aid from Saudi Arabia or from other Arab countries but I hope we will," Nabulsi told the Jordan Times Saturday.

## Congress approves savings and loans bailout

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Congress approved a landmark savings and loan bailout early Saturday after a frantic two days of wrangling, over the finishing touches on the biggest financial rescue in the country's history.

The House passed the \$159-billion bailout shortly after midnight Friday (0400 GMT Saturday) on a 201-175 vote, allowing weary members of Congress to begin a monthlong vacation after a bitter fight with President George Bush's administration over financing the package.

## Japan leads world industrial production

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite an apparent setback in April, Japan continues to hold the lead among major countries in speeding its industrial production, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In a report released in Washington Sunday, the fund said that in the first three months of this year Japan's industry was producing 19 per cent more than in 1985, compared with 13 per cent for the United States, 10 per cent for West Germany and France and 9 per cent for Britain.

At the end of last year, Italy's production was 15 per cent above 1985 but figures for this year were not available.

The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency reported an increase of 9.5 per cent for Japan in 1988

over 1987. This year, the month of April showed an annual drop of 37.4 per cent from March, and an 11.8 per cent recovery in May.

The fund compares changes for a three-month period with the corresponding quarter of the previous year. In the first quarter of this year it reported an increase of 7.2 per cent for Japan, 5.8 per cent for France, 4.8 per cent for West Germany, 4.6 per cent for the United States and .9 of 1 per cent for Britain.

Some smaller industrial countries were doing better than the big ones. Norway's gain for the 12 months was 14.2 per cent. In May of this year its factories and oil wells were producing 35 per cent more than in 1985.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Saturday, August 5, 1989<br>Central Bank official rates |       |       |                         |       |
|---|-------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
|   | Buy   | Sell  | Japanese yen (for 100)  | 414.8 |
| U.S. dollar   | 801.1 | 806.1 | Dutch guilder           | 262.9 |
| Pound Sterling  | 931.6 | 940.9 | Swedish crown           | 89.4  |
| Deutsche mark   | 304.5 | 307.5 | Italian lire (for 100)  | 42.3  |
| Swiss franc   | 353.4 | 356.9 | Belgian franc (for 100) | 145.3 |
| French franc  | 90.0  | 90.9  |                         |       |

## Soviets to cut economic growth; boost consumer output by 1990

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet planning chief Yuri Maslyukov has promised a consumer boom in 1990 to overcome mounting popular discontent over shortages.

In a determined switch in the Soviet economy after decades of emphasis on heavy industry, Maslyukov called for a great leap forward in the production of television sets and other consumer goods to contain social unrest.

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said 1990 will be vital for the success of his "perestroika" reform programme.

But, after seeing the draft figures presented by Maslyukov to the Supreme Soviet Thursday, Western economic experts said the target set by Maslyukov — which the planning chief said would be largely achieved by increasing home production and not through imports — seemed out of reach.

A specialist at the major embassy commented, "I cannot see how they can achieve such a breakthrough so fast."

Anger over the lack of even basic household goods and food items was one of the key elements in last month's miners' strikes across the country and has behind much worker unrest in other industries.

Maslyukov said next year's plan would include an unprecedented 12 per cent increase in output of consumer goods.

"We must in 1990 perform a great leap forward in this area... which will demand colossal reserves, organisation and discipline," said Maslyukov. The new-style plan "will help remove the growth of social tension in our society," he added.

But the economic growth target would be only two per cent — the lowest annual peacetime target since the system of five-year plans was introduced in 1928.

It was set at six per cent for 1989 but is lagging at only 3.5 per cent half-way through the year.

Maslyukov said next year's overall domestic trade turnover — a key indicator of the consum-

er market — was planned to grow three times faster than in the period from 1986-89 and reach 435 billion roubles (\$696 billion).

The planning chief said the consumer boom would be partly achieved through its cut of at least 30 per cent in government investment in heavy industry and by the conversion of many defence industry factories to produce popular products.

Leading Soviet financial expert, say the country is in economic crisis and in his report Maslyukov said the 1990 plan — the last of the current five-year period — had "an emergency character."

The planning chief, also a non-voting member of the Communist Party's ruling politburo, confirmed suggestions by Soviet economists that the current budget deficit was 120 billion roubles (\$192 billion).

This is 20 billion roubles (\$32 billion) more than had been earlier officially admitted and represents a figure of around 25 per cent of total planned government expenditure for 1989.

## Japan's economic growth grounds to halt, but no one is worried

TOKYO (R) — Japan's economic growth ground to a halt last quarter but government economists say they aren't worried.

They said the economy is already showing signs of picking up steam again, adding that growth looks certain to top the

government's four per cent forecast for the year ending next March.

"There's a good chance the expansion will continue until next spring," a senior government economist said. A slowdown in the April/June quarter, was to be

expected following the economy's stellar performance in the previous three months.

Government economists said the economy may have contracted slightly in the April/June quarter, after surging ahead 2.2 per cent in January/March.

Domestic demand sagged after the April 1 introduction of a three-per cent sales tax, they said. Exports probably also fell.

### ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

#### Bakeries reopen after one-day strike

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — The country's bakeries reopened Saturday after a 24-hour strike when the government agreed to discuss the bakers' grievances, including a demand for a 25-per cent price increase. But a government statement also said the strike was illegal and called on striking bakers to "show a sense of responsibility and perform their function for society." When most bakeries went on strike Friday, huge lines formed outside the few that were still making bread. Bakers are demanding an increase in the price for a standard loaf of French bread from 0.12 dinars (about 13 cents) to 0.15 dinars (about 16 cents). Bread is heavily subsidised in Tunisia, and a steep price rise in 1983 led to widespread anti-government rioting.

#### Strikes flare in Poland

WARSAW (R) — Polish workers are staging strikes against food price rises of up to 500 per cent, but major plants such as the Baltic shipyards and coal mines of the south appear unaffected so far, authorities said Saturday. They said the most serious stoppages occurred Friday in the railway and communications industries. In the western region of Legnica, where thousands of Soviet troops are based, strikers cut off the city from Poland's telephone and telegraph network. Railwaymen stopped commuter trains for four hours in the Baltic port of Gdansk, and bus drivers staged a sit-in strike in the western town of Zielona Gora. Railwaymen in the southwestern region of Silesia also stopped work for one hour. The workers protested against the Communist authorities' removal last Tuesday of most state subsidies on food prices. In some areas, prices for ham — a Polish staple — rocketed by about 500 per cent to 7,700 zlotys (\$9) a kilogram (\$4 a pound).

#### Yugoslav inflation rockets to 790%

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia's Communist authorities suffered a blow Friday in their battle to rescue the economy when official data showed inflation soared to almost 790 per cent in July. The Federal Bureau of Statistics said annual inflation rose by a monthly record of 136.4 percentage points to 788.6 per cent compared with 652.2 per cent in June. In July 1988, inflation stood at 188.9 per cent. The figures provided ammunition for critics of Prime Minister Ante Markovic, who took office in March and has come under increasing fire in parliament and in Yugoslavia's six republics for failing to protect living standards. Markovic, a Croat, told the Communist Party's policy-making Central Committee last week that there was a plot to overthrow his government. He mentioned no names but his loudest critics are Serbs, traditional rivals of the Croats.

## Kuwait reduces oil output

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's oil minister said Saturday it had sharply reduced oil output and was now producing near the level of 1.35 million barrels per day (BPD) it had promised other OPEC members.

"We have reduced production by around four or five hundred thousand and we are very near the level that we have indicated to the other countries that we would be following," Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah told Reuters in an interview.

Oil analysts in the Gulf estimated last week that Kuwait's production for July was around 1.7 million to 1.8 million BPD, well below their estimate for June of about two million.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), meeting in Vienna in June, assigned Kuwait a quota of 1.09 million BPD.

Sheikh Ali said at the time he rejected the quota, but pledged to reduce output to help OPEC to defend world prices.

"Since the meeting, gradually we have reduced by more than 400,000," he said Saturday.

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Special JETT buses to Jerash leave daily from Abdali JETT station at 6 p.m. sharp and back to Amman after the show.

### JORDAN COMPUTER SOCIETY

in cooperation with PSDP Presents a lecture (in English) on SHAREWARE: How software developers can profitably market and distribute their products Tuesday, Aug. 8, 1989, 6:30 p.m. Abdul Hamid Shouran Foundation Lecture Hall Arab Jordan Investment Bank Building (5th floor)

All computer professionals invited

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كشافة









South African activists parade through a whites-only hospital to protest the country's racial segregation

## S. African crowds defy police curbs on anti-apartheid funeral

CAPE TOWN (R) — Crowds packed a Cape Town church Saturday, defying South African police restrictions to honor a two-anti-apartheid activists killed in a bomb blast last month.

Police Friday clamped curbs on the political funeral of coloured (mixed-race) activists Coline Williams, a 22-year-old drama student, and Robbie Waterwitch, 20, who died July 23.

According to police, the two were probably setting a bomb when it exploded outside a public toilet near a courthouse.

The Reverend Allan Boesak, a leading anti-apartheid campaigner, told 3,000 mourners at a Roman Catholic church in

Cape Town's coloured (mixed race) suburb of Athlone:

"Young people come to believe that planting bombs is the only way to bring change. Every person who dies in this way dies because of our cowardice."

"But let this be known: We will not give up the struggle. Too much has happened for us to turn back now," Boesak said as crowds packed into the church for the two-hour service overflowed into the parking lot outside.

Police said the funeral should be held indoors, that only priests should address the crowd and that no political material should be displayed.

But a huge banner in the colours of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) hung from the steeple and others decked the church walls in open defiance of a tough police presence.

A police helicopter hovered overhead and four policemen stood on top of vans.

The pamphlet circulated at the church said Williams was an area commander for the ANC's military wing and was killed on her fourth guerrilla operation. It said she had recruited Waterwitch as a novice.

Mourners included Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, liberal parliamentarian Jan van Eck and several activists defying government restriction orders to attend the funeral.

Several hundred people in the crowd were white.

"Our God is not a neutral God. There can be no neutrality when there is oppression," Tutu told the congregation. "Our God is on the side of the hungry and oppressed."

Police curbs also barred mourners from moving on foot from the church to the graveside. But Peter Makoba, president of the banned South African Youth Congress, ended the service with an open exhortation to march to the burial.

"These are your battle orders. Let us be peaceful as we march to the grave," he said. "But withstand the violence of the enemy. Do not be intimidated."

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## 14 Indians, 25 civilians said killed Sri Lankan rebels report major clash

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Fourteen Indian soldiers and 25 civilians were killed in Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna district this week in clashes between troops and Tamil separatist guerrillas, the rebels said.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam said in a statement fighting broke out at Valveturru Wednesday and Thursday while Sri Lanka and India were holding talks in New Delhi on the withdrawal of 45,000 Indian troops from the island.

In the southern areas 16 people were killed by suspected Sinhalese militants in the 24 hours up to Saturday morning, official sources said.

They said three members of the security forces were among those killed by suspected rebels of the People's Liberation Front who want the Indian forces to leave.

A Sri Lankan delegation led by Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne returned to Colombo Friday night after week-long talks in New Delhi ended without agreement.

A government statement said Wijeratne would report on the talks to President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Officials said Premadasa was spending the weekend at Kataragama, a Buddhist religious center, 175 kilometres southeast of Colombo.

The Tigers said eight Indian soldiers were killed and several wounded in the fighting at Valveturru Wednesday.

They claimed Indian forces then went on a rampage killing 25 civilians.

The Tigers killed six soldiers in two separate incidents the following day, the statement said, but it did not say whether there were any rebel casualties. Indian officials were not available for comment.

Sri Lankan military sources said about 4,000 Tamils had sought refuge in Sri Lankan army camps following the fighting.

The Tigers have been fighting Indian soldiers over the past two years after rejecting a 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka accord which sought to end a separatist rebellion by the minority Tamil community.

They began peace talks with the government two months ago and have been demanding the withdrawal of the Indian forces.

Indian offer

India Friday made a conditional offer to withdraw 1,500 troops a week from Sri Lanka.

However, statements issued in New Delhi said only the talks were cordial and friendly, without mentioning an agreement.

Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry sources said the Indian offer came Friday before the two sides ended week-long talks in New Delhi aimed at finding ways to make India withdraw its peacekeeping troops.

"At this moment I can say that the talks went on well," Sri Lanka's high commissioner, or ambassador, S.S.P. Kalpage said in New Delhi, adding: "There are proposals and counter-proposals, and also there are ifs and buts."

But Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry sources in Colombo said India agreed to withdraw 1,500 troops a week if the Tigers observed a ceasefire and no attacks are mounted on the Indians.

## Cuba reaffirms resistance to Gorbachev-style reforms

HAVANA (R) — Cuba has shown again it will resist the reforms sweeping the Communist world when it harnessed two Soviet publications as too favourable towards Western democracy and capitalism.

Cuban President Fidel Castro has made "socialism or death" his motto in two speeches this year and the official newspaper Granma, in an editorial disclosing the ban on the weekly Moscow News and the monthly Sputnik Friday, said Cuba would continue its orthodox socialist course.

Granma described the two journals as "justifying bourgeois democracy as the highest form of popular participation and with a fascination for the American way of life."

"We are fighting for socialism and communism and therefore publications like these do not correspond with our reality or interests and are not for us," the editorial said.

It rejected "those who deny the guiding role of the party in the Soviet Union, call for a multi-party system, proclaim the free action of the laws of the market, exact foreign investments, rediscover private property, question internationalism and solidarity with other nations."

Cuba has found itself out of step with free-market and multi-party trends in most Communist countries, led by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika, or restructuring, and glasnost, or openness, policies.

Granma rebuked some Soviet reformists for forgetting their own history, saying Sputnik and Moscow News "give the idea that the USSR has no history (and) that it is necessary to begin again

starting from zero."

"They forget that thanks only to all that has been achieved in these years of Soviet power and under the umbrella of strategic parity has it been possible to develop the present process in that nation."

Castro in recent speeches has projected a bleak picture of a Cuba that could come under siege as a result of a hostile United States and the disintegration of Marxist-Leninist ideology and the Communist bloc.

He has suggested Cuba one day might not receive the massive aid from the Soviet Union which has helped keep the island's economy afloat for the past 30 years.

No Western newspapers or magazines are sold to Cubans. Foreign journalists and diplomats have been able since last year to subscribe to U.S. publications.

## China endorses southern Africa peace moves

HARARE (R) — China has swung its diplomatic weight behind efforts to ease tension in southern Africa but ruled out any diplomatic contacts with Pretoria until it ended apartheid.

Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, halfway through a six-country regional tour, told a news conference Friday China saw "a growing momentum for reconciliation and an increasingly visible prospect for peace."

"The situation in southern Africa is moving from tension to relaxation and from confrontation to dialogue," he said. China would support southern African states if they adopted "correct policies in the light of realities."

He sounded more optimistic on

regional developments, including Namibia's current transition to independence from South African rule, than Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, who frequently says South Africa is not to be trusted as a diplomatic partner.

The Chinese minister described his talks with Mugabe, a longtime friend of Peking, as excellent and very friendly. He came to Zimbabwe from Lesotho and Botswana and will go on to Angola, Zambia and Mozambique.

He balanced his remarks by saying that South African authorities had not adopted any substantive policies or measures on the fundamental issue of abolishing apartheid.

The Soviet Union, which has

"We call on the South African authorities to get a clear view of the situation in conformity with the historical tide, adopt enlightened policies and renounce apartheid," he declared.

South Africa should release jailed nationalist leader Nelson Mandela and open a dialogue with banned "liberation movements" on the establishment of a unified, democratic and free South Africa, he said.

There were no official links or contacts whatsoever between China and South Africa but Peking permitted visits by South African tourists, Chinese residents of South Africa, and South African academics invited to conferences.

The Soviet Union, which has

also backed dialogue in southern Africa, has gone further than China in opening discreet diplomatic contacts with Pretoria.

The Chinese minister made clear in reply to a question about use of armed struggle by South African "liberation movements" that Peking no longer saw this as the best way of ending apartheid.

"I think the people of South Africa are entitled to resort to various means to strive for their legitimate rights. But on the other hand I think that at present the international community should... pressure the South African authorities into a peaceful settlement of this question by way of negotiations," he said.

## Recruit scandal rears its head again

TOKYO (R) — Two candidates nominated Saturday for the presidency of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said they had received money from a company at the heart of the nation's worst postwar political scandal.

Front-runner Toshiki Kaifu, former education minister, told a press conference he had received about 15 million yen (more than \$100,000) in political donations from Recruit, the centre of a shares-for-favours scandal.

He reported the donations earlier this week, but the local press speculated he did not report other money received from the company.

"We of course didn't know at the time it would cause such a great social problem," Kaifu said. "Naturally we would never have got involved if we had known."

Kaifu, 58, denied doing any favours for Recruit.

He is considered virtually certain to be Japan's next prime minister, thanks to support from the LDP's biggest factions headed by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Kaifu was once a protégé of the late Prime Minister Takeo Miki, who was considered the conscience of the party and worked to root out corrupt political practices.

Rival Shintaro Ishihara, a dashing 56-year-old novelist, revealed he had received but later returned an unspecified amount of money from Recruit.

Major newspapers reported Saturday he had received about three million yen (more than \$21,000) on 1987 and 1988. Donations such as those re-

ceived by Kaifu and Ishihara are not illegal.

The third contender, 62-year-old former Health and Welfare Minister Yoshio Hayashi, said he never had any connection with Recruit.

The Recruit scandal led to the resignation of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in early June.

His successor, Sosuke Uno, himself embroiled in a sex scandal, announced he would resign following the LDP's resounding defeat in Upper House elections July 23.

All three candidates called for a revision of an LDP-sponsored sales tax, seen as a prime cause of the party's election defeat.

Kaifu called for a thoroughgoing revision, but said the three per cent level should be maintained.

Some LDP members have proposed removing the tax from foodstuffs or earmarking it for social welfare.

LDP members of parliament vote on the party presidency Tuesday, and Wednesday the man chosen will be elected premier by both houses of parliament.

It will be the first time in 17 years that the selection of a prime minister has gone to parliament members instead of being conducted among LDP leaders.

Due to the LDP's majority in the powerful Lower House, the presidency of the party carries with it the job of prime minister.

It is not clear whether Kaifu would be allowed to remain in power beyond the current term which expires at the end of October.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Soviet Far East floods wreak havoc

MOSCOW (R) — Ten days of floods in the Soviet Far East have killed 17 people and submerged part of the Trans-Siberian railway, the official news agency TASS said Friday. It said damage was estimated at more than 400 million roubles (\$650 million). Soldiers were fighting to save the city of Dalnerechensk, where an embankment had collapsed under pressure of water. TASS said a section of railway would be blown up to channel the water into a small valley where it would not threaten homes and farms. A major ecological disaster threatened the town of Partizansky to the south, where several million tonnes of ash waste from a thermal power station had been washed away threatening the most fertile land in the region. A state of emergency was declared Monday in the Far East after 18 districts were inundated with water, leaving thousands of cattle stranded, towns without drinking water and hundreds of kilometres of power lines down.

#### 'Mafia threat national emergency'

ROME (R) — The threat posed to Italy by the mafia was a national emergency and the fight against it was one of the government's chief priorities, Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti said Friday. Speaking to the parliamentary anti-mafia commission in Rome, Andreotti called for more police to be drafted into areas of Sicily and southern Italy where the criminal society operated. "The mafia threat is an emergency of such complexity and seriousness that the government's most concerted efforts are unequal to it without the total and dedicated involvement of all the state's resources," said Andreotti. He said parliament would give

priority to all legislation, particularly on drug trafficking, which helped in the fight and said he was considering ways of penalising banks and employees involved in the laundering of illicit mafia money.

#### India landslide buries 35

NEW DELHI (AP) — A landslide buried about 35 bus passengers Saturday, killing at least 15 of them, as they tried to clear boulders blocking a remote mountain road in northern India, news reports said. United News of India (UNI) said the accident occurred on a highway connecting India with Tibet, about 300 kilometres north of New Delhi. The news agency said rescuers using bulldozers had found 15 bodies.

#### Cuba train crash kills 30

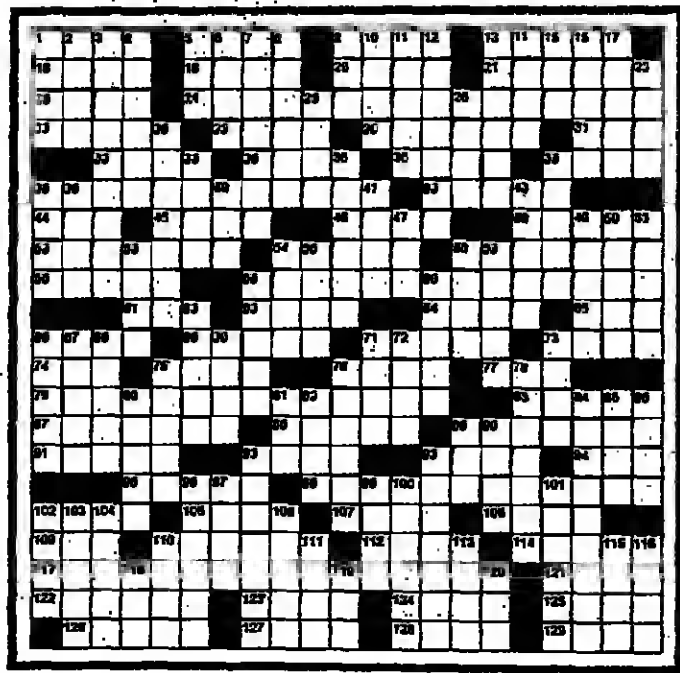
HAVANA (R) — Two speeding passenger trains collided head-on 160 kilometres east of Havana Friday, killing 32 people and injuring 117, the Cuban News Agency AIN reported. The accident occurred before dawn in the city of Colon when a train travelling to Havana from the town of Sancti Spiritus collided with a train going from Havana to Camaguey.

#### Bangladesh flood maroons 100,000

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — More than 100,000 people were marooned, many of them perched on roofs, after floods engulfed northeastern Bangladesh, killing at least 60 people, officials said Saturday.

### THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Ertsson



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. New notice on my boss's office wall: "Of course I want it by yesterday. If I wanted it by today, I'd wait till tomorrow to tell you."
2. Glass carter's apprentice deemed tools used on job were just awl plane boring.
3. Child actor got his eye boost after famous drama critic bailed debut.
4. Very healthy, invention aside, a dearth of money becomes the mother of necessity.

### CRYPTOGRAMS

1. ECHRM EISXJ SXKCBIA YWVF EISL DEL  
VFIM SWVF TDR HPDBA VW JAYDV: KWT  
EJDPWIA EWW RIJHIX  
—By Earl Inland

2. RTCUORI TENGAMUOA CACIAM PHOXY  
YAORELAC DCPLI HURT DEEM OCAGY  
CEPGR  
—By Lyle H. Jones

3. FLIKLE FLEIBRD FLIMSY RE FLESHS QX  
LARDLABAB RXV FEDRELEST QE MDIE  
FLESYARS  
—By Ed Kladman

4. AVUS OUREOY OVINE NYVE RE IVIV IVVB  
"BY OKAY YBY"  
—By Norton Rhodes

